



Volume XLII, No. 2

CONCEPTS

Northern Illinois Area, LTD. Area 20 Service Letter



Summer 2019

A.A.'s Legacy of Service by Bill W.

"Our Twelfth Step — carrying the message — is the basic service that the A.A. Fellowship gives; this is our principal aim and the main reason for our existence. Therefore, A.A. is more than a set of principles; it is a society of alcoholics in action. We must carry the message, else we ourselves can wither and those who haven't been given the truth may die.

Hence, an A.A. service is anything whatever that helps us to reach a fellow sufferer — ranging all the way from the Twelfth Step itself to a ten-cent phone call and a cup of coffee, and to A.A.'s General Service Office for national and international action. The sum total of all these services is our Third Legacy of Service.

Services include meeting places, hospital cooperation, and intergroup offices; they mean pamphlets, books, and good publicity of almost every description. They call for committees, delegates, trustees, and conferences. And, not to be forgotten, they need voluntary money contributions from within the Fellowship."

A.A.'s Legacy of Service by Bill W., pg. 3 is reprinted with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

"Life will take on new meaning. To watch people recover, to see them help others, to watch loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship grow up about you, to have a host of friends--this is an experience you must not miss."

Reprinted from Alcoholics Anonymous, 4th Edition, page 89, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

I WAS THINKING:

I was thinking: From time to time I've heard people talk about the lack of good sponsorship these days. I'm not sure I know what that means, but I've said it myself too. In my case what I mean is that there are those who take their sponsees through the Big Book, line by line, from beginning to end, and there are those that don't. There are those that emphasize "lack of power" and the need to have a higher power and those that don't. There are those that are very service minded and have their sponsees involved in service and those that don't.

The forward to the first edition reads: "We, of Alcoholics Anonymous, are more than one hundred men and women who have recovered from a seemingly hopeless state of mind and body. To show other alcoholics precisely how we have recovered is the main purpose of this book." In the chapter How it Works Bill wrote: "Here are the steps we took, which are suggested as a program of recovery:"

We have "precisely how we have recovered" and "here are the steps we took" which is pretty clear - this is what those first "more than one hundred men and women" did in order to be successful.

The program of recovery that is suggested is the Twelve Steps that we take in order to obtain and maintain a relationship with a higher power that can solve my problem. The problem is the unmanageability that I have (Step 1). I feel I need to be extremely clear, the suggestion is the Twelve Steps; the program that includes the Twelve Steps. It is NOT take what you want and leave the rest. That is called half measures and

Bill was also clear about that - "half measures availed us nothing." I don't get half by putting in half; I get nothing if I put in half, is what he is saying.

Recently I heard the phrase "All in." I really like that phrase. It means that I hold nothing back, I don't say "but" or "what if" or anything else, I say ok. Read the book, Ok. Set up chairs, Ok. Get on your knees and ask for help, Ok. I don't need to understand, which is good because even after 21 years I still don't. I just know it works.

My life is still unmanageable, it always will be. The difference is that today I don't try to manage it; I let my higher power manage it.

Oh yeah, I was talking about sponsorship. I am an alcoholic through and through. No doubt in my mind. If I don't live this program I am screwed. Part of that is helping others (Step Twelve). If you are an alcoholic like me then you need to do what I do, what Bill and the other more than one hundred men and women did. If I am going to sponsor you, then we will go through the Big Book line by line until you understand what you need to do. You will be involved in working with others. You will be involved in spiritual growth. You will be involved in General Service, serving as a GSR or other service position. Maybe one day you will be able to say "I love my life," as I have said.

One of my prayers is that after looking at my life, the way I behave, you will say, he was all in.

Anyway, I was thinking.

Robert S.

Delegate - Panel 68

It's All About Understanding / Education

We just had the Pre-General Service Conference Workshop last Saturday. This is one event that I have always enjoyed. We, as members, get to let our Delegate, Robert S., know what we think about all of the Agenda Items that will be discussed at the General Service Conference.

I have already booked my room for the Forum to be held in Detroit, Michigan on July 12-14, 2019. While driving to the first Forum that I ever attended I asked myself "why am I going to this"? I didn't know anything about these Forums and none of the people that I hung around with went to the Forum. After I spent the weekend at the event and was driving home I said to myself, "that was GREAT, why didn't I know about this event sooner. I thought that it would be dull, boring and a waist of my time. I was completely wrong and I was so glad to be able to attend.

Coming up on August 9-11, 2019, Area 20 will be hosting the Illinois State Conference at the Sheraton Lisle-Naperville Hotel. I remember the first conference that I attended. Wow, overwhelming but fun. Now I enjoy seeing people that I have met over the years at our conferences. It's like a reunion. It's wonderful to know that even

though I don't see them often, they are still busy staying sober, happy and free.

At the Fall Assembly to be held on September 14, 2019 in District 10, Area 20 will be holding Area elections. Area 20 has its own website at aa-nia.org and within that site there is the "Service Manual" which has all of the "Duties and Responsibilities of Northern Illinois Area Trusted Servants" starting on page 29. Very early in my recovery I was a GSR. I attended District meetings but I didn't understand what was happening and I didn't like the smoke. I was not a good GSR and I didn't have a service sponsor to help guide me. Now I have a much better idea of what a "Trusted Servant" means. To me it means understanding what the position's responsibilities are and doing those tasks. It's not about a TITLE. Many times it is work but I have found that it's worth it. My sobriety has been greatly enriched by doing service work, no matter what that work has been. It could be chairing a meeting, being a sponsor or holding a service position at the District or Area level. I encourage you to attend the Fall Assembly and if there is any service position that you are interested in, read what the dues are and then stand for that position. There are always people that can guide you and help you to learn and grow.

Very grateful to serve....

Marilyn F.

Alternate Delegate - Panel 68

Anonymity within Alcoholics Anonymous – My NAME is....-

I walked into my home group one day and was greeted with the heartfelt welcome that I'd become accustomed to, having attended this particular meeting regularly for several years. The person with whom I was conversing had news..., yes news, the kind of news which soon will be widely known, which if can be delivered to someone who is not yet aware, will have the predictable shock and awe. Have you heard Chris? Did you hear that Christy died? He continued, "I just heard myself, don't have a lot of details.."

Christy who I asked, afraid of the answer. You know, "Christy", that "nice lady", always smiling, comes here every week... Oh my God no, I said, please say it isn't true!!

I was immediately taken aback, my head instantly reliving conversations which had just taken place between her and I over the last few weeks. My God, she was sitting at my table just last week! I had "known" Christy for a very long time. We had become "friends". They type of friends we often make in AA which means I didn't really know her well at all. I knew her thoughts and ideas on several subjects and

knew her mannerisms and her smile. I knew her past sufferings and knew how she had recovered. I knew what type of water she liked to drink (because she always had her water bottle), and I knew she lived in my home town. But I didn't really "know" Christy very well, and it was probably that fact more than any other that was as evident as she came walking through the door...

Wait! What? I thought that... I mean... I just heard- "Oh my" she said after hearing of her early demise, nope, still here! I was confused, uncertain and truthfully, embarrassed. My emotions had just been taken on a 180° roller coaster ride in the span of 3 minutes. But wait, then who...? OHHHH her!!! Christine! Or was it Christee? You know, that nice lady, always smiling, kind of quiet, comes here every week... Turns out, none of us new Christine very well, so much so that no one even knew her last name, until her wake that is.

The wake was lightly attended, made up mostly of regulars from the home group and a few others from the district. As there was no family present, some of us "regulars" were asked to say a few words in her memory and it was during those comments I told those present what Christine's last name was, and I also told them what my last name was as well. I told them that although we may not have "known" her very well, that we all "knew" her, and also related the story of the mis-identification that had occurred at our home group. I talked about how we really

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don't know very much about the people we see every week, and very often (practically always) don't even know their last name. As I closed, I promised from that day forward, I would be announcing my first and last name at AA functions both as a remembrance to her and also in an effort to be an example of what was allowable conduct within AA.

Venturing forward, I began announcing myself with my first and last name. Many who had known me for a long time seemed puzzled. Why was he doing THAT? He's not supposed to do THAT! We are supposed to be ANONYMOUS! Why is he wanting to be DIFFERENT? He is so full of himself! Where's his HUMILITY?

I had of course seen others doing the same thing in AA for years and never really bothered to ASK why? Usually though, they were folks who seemed to have been around for a while. I was vaguely aware of our 11 tradition which stated that we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films and like many others thought that meant we needed to be anonymous at ALL levels, never associating ourselves with AA at the public level and also never breaking our own anonymity within the fellowship. It just seemed to make sense. Plus, that's what everyone else did! First name only! That's how I had been taught! Looking into it further (and after talking to my sponsor, who at the time did not practice this "principle") I came upon the immortal words written by Dr. Bob regarding our 11 tradition who said-

"Since our Tradition on anonymity designates the exact level where the line should be held, it must be obvious to everyone who can read and understand the English language that to maintain anonymity at any other level is definitely a violation of this Tradition. "The AA who hides his identity from his fellow AA by using only a given name violates the Tradition just as much as the AA who permits his name to appear in the press in connection with matters pertaining to AA."

"The former is maintaining his anonymity ABOVE the level of press, radio, and films, and the latter is maintaining his anonymity BELOW the level of press, radio, and films - whereas the Tradition states that we should maintain our anonymity AT the level of press, radio, and films."

So what does that mean? What exactly IS a "given" name? Strictly speaking, a "given" name is the legal first name of a person.

Further, he stated there were two ways to break the Anonymity Tradition: (1) by giving your name at the public level of press or radio; (2) by being so anonymous that you can't be reached by other drunks. - Dr. Bob and the Good Old Timers, page 264

He goes on to say that at the group level, all members should know the first and last names along with the addresses and phone numbers for all of the members in the group and that if these were NOT known, "then we as a group are operating ABOVE the level of anonymity intended..... We are not able to

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be of Service to One Another in Time of Need”.

Reading Dr. Bob’s comments again then, he is saying that we should be using both our first and last name (or given and surname) at meetings. It’s amazing how inherently prejudiced we are against doing this in AA though, and perhaps for obvious reasons. Even newcomers I meet, who have only been a one or two meetings in their lives have a preconceived notion that they are supposed to announce themselves with only their first name and the admission that they are alcoholic. And of course, in those cases we entirely understand their reluctance to announce to the “world” who exactly they are and what ails them. They need to be taught, gently, which is our job. My real amazement comes from the folks who aren’t newcomers and BELIEVE the use of first and last names somehow violates our traditions. It does not, and in my opinion should be more widely taught-

In loving service (and in memory of Christine C.)

Chris D.

Area Chair

*God grant me
the Serenity
To accept the things
I cannot change;
Courage to change
the things I can;
And Wisdom
to know the Difference.*

A.A. in the Workplace – Practicing These Principles in All of Our (Business) Affairs

A.A. in the Workplace – Practicing These Principles in All of Our (Business) Affairs

I started a new job not very long ago, following almost sixteen years in a position where I provided organizational oversight and leadership for a small nonprofit. Leaving that position, searching for a new employer, and navigating my current position has challenged me to use many, if not all, of the principles I was taught in the program of Alcoholics Anonymous. As a result, my recovery program has been transformed in ways I would have never thought possible, which has led to some amazing moments of self-revelation and growth.

One of these moments came immediately following my departure. I wanted to stay in my former position until I retired. I enjoyed the work, it was comfortable, and I had received exceptional performance reviews. Had other circumstances not intervened, I would have been there forever. However, it was not a healthy place to work, hadn’t been for years, and I was too fearful to look

elsewhere. I knew the day was coming when that job was going to end, and it did. Practicing acceptance and recognizing that nothing happens in God's world by mistake, I reached out for help. I looked to those I trusted to guide me through the job search process and asked for assistance. Putting pride and ego aside, I went through an honest self-appraisal of where my skills and talents could be used to best serve others and my Higher Power and began looking for my next job.

The interview process was difficult. I would always send God in first, but many times these were fear-filled and anxiety producing events. Rejection left me feeling defeated, and there was a lot of rejection. The words "Your will, not mine" came into my head so often it became my mantra. I practiced obedience, surrender, and dependence on that power greater than myself each day as I continued to fill out on-line applications and sent out resume after resume. During my unemployment I made sure I remained connected to my sober support network through calls to my sponsor, increased meetings (hey – I had the time!), continued work with others, and ensuring I stayed spiritually grounded. I prayed, not for the perfect job or the best boss or a great salary. I prayed that I would be planted somewhere I could work hard and be of service. It paid off and I began my new position with a grateful heart.

I went from a small company that had a staff of 21 to a local unit of government with over 2,000 employees. My previous

job had been in the substance use disorder treatment field where I was surrounded by recovery. In my work, everyone I encountered either had sobriety, needed sobriety, or was familiar with the process of recovery. The focus of my new job did not include any of those elements. It was a different experience and I felt like a newcomer. This new position required a fairly steep learning curve and many days the feeling of powerlessness overwhelmed me. Other days it felt as though my professional life had become completely unmanageable. But each morning I would start the day the same way – with the 3rd Step Prayer, the Serenity Prayer, and a few 9th Step Promises thrown in for good measure. I thought if I just had more confidence in my abilities, I would be better prepared to handle this new job and all it involved, yet over time I realized I didn't need more confidence. What I needed was more humility. And I needed to treat the struggles I was having like I did any other life challenge since I had become sober – with a program focused solution.

I began to apply the principals of this program along with what you all had taught me about living sober, to the situations I encountered on a daily basis. Each day I showed up, suited up, and gave my employer my best. I approached my position with honesty, integrity and a willingness to learn and explore new things. Like a newcomer, I began to ask questions. And more importantly, follow direction. As a newcomer at work there were times where I made a few dubious decisions,

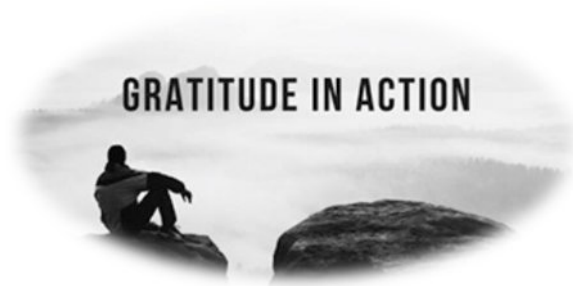
some which resulted in unfavorable consequences. I took responsibility, held myself accountable, made amends where appropriate, and learned from those mistakes.

I spoke often in our monthly manager meetings about “group conscience” and “unity” and in the beginning I got a few odd looks. Today everyone in our unit uses those terms freely and often. Even though they are used outside of the context of the rooms of Alcoholics Anonymous, their intent is universal. I also use phrases like “Keep it Simple”, “First Things First”, “Be Part of the Solution, Not the Problem” to illustrate practical work-related concepts which I use all the time in A.A. I have been known to share with coworkers the phrase “... and acceptance is the answer to ALL my problems today” on more than one occasion, and although they may not know why, I believe they appreciate that response rather than my blowing up over situations which are beyond my control. Some of my coworkers know of my relationship in the program of Alcoholics Anonymous and some don’t. I don’t advertise that I’m a coin-carrying member but am happy to share my experience with anyone who asks. Not surprisingly, several have. My supervisor has known me since my early sobriety and respects who I am and the work I do with others. She told me of a client she was working with who had struggled with our illness for decades. I was able to share with her the locations and times of some of my favorite local A.A.

meetings and she passed this information along. Her client found a meeting they were comfortable with, a sponsor, and ultimately – sobriety. God really has become my New Employer.

My experience with A.A. service came in handy. I practiced love and tolerance with those coworkers who became angry and indignant during times when our committee meetings became turbulent. During one contentious meeting there were several members who were particularly opposed to a motion which was approved by the majority. As we moved forward to the next item of business, they expressed their unhappiness at not being “heard.” So, I introduced Concept V and we now allow for the minority opinion to be expressed during these committee meetings and a new vote is taken. At every opportunity I try to incorporate Tradition Two in many of my daily work experiences, recognizing that for me there always remains an ultimate authority. Even though I was hired to be a public servant, I never forget that no matter where I am, no matter what I’m doing, what I am called above all to be today is a trusted servant.

Lisa S.



Service Keeps Me Sober

I have been involved with the Bridging the Gap committee in my district since my first week of sobriety. I hold this service position very close to my heart because it's what kept me going and got me started back into the program. Bringing the A.A. program into treatment centers is vital. By suiting up and showing up this committee shows the lost souls of A.A. there is a solution. By being a part of the BTG and learning the ins and outs I have been able to use this experience to get fronts and family connected to A.A. in their areas as well. It also reminds me how large our fellowship is by speaking with other members from coast to coast. It shows me the purpose of connecting other alcoholics to our fellowship and importance of carrying the message.

Maddy M. - District 22 BTG Chair

Are we doing all that we can do

I showed up at a treatment center that I found in the phone book about 10yrs. ago. I had kicked out the remainder of my family in my life. Sue "my wife" was the only one that stayed with me. Quit my job and had a lot of debt. Nothing uncommon about that, right. The treatment center that I contacted said that I needed to get two books,

"Alcoholics Anonymous" and "Narcotics Anonymous." When I got home and told Sue what books I needed she asked where would I buy them? I replied "at a book store I guess." I found them both at a bookstore. First week in Treatment the counselor ask a person in our Group where he got his AA book. He said he went to an AA meeting and someone gave him one. I paid \$25.00 for mine.

When I stood for PI Chair I felt I had something to offer. I was 56yrs. old when I went into that treatment center and had never heard of Alcoholics Anonymous. Maybe there was something we could do to change that.

At one of our Breakouts at our Assembly someone talked about their district having a Billboard. After he checked into it he said that it wouldn't be feasible for them to have a billboard for their District. It was suggested by OAAI, the company that offers free time for nonprofit organizations, that maybe he could expand the area for the Billboards. The only thing that we would have to pay for was the Shipping and Artwork for the Billboards.

Our CPC and PI Committees started to collect information for use of Billboards to be used in Area 20. On June 22, 2019 at our Summer Assembly we will present to our Area a motion for the use of Billboards in NIA20. Details of the Motion can be obtained from your DCM.

Steve M. - NIA PI Chair

Election of Delegates in the “Downstate” Era

In April 1951, Alcoholics Anonymous held its first General Service Conference at the Commodore Hotel in New York City. In attendance were Luke H. of Chicago and Ward M. of Springfield, the first two Delegates elected from Illinois. The following year a third Delegate from Illinois, George M. of Decatur, joined them. None of these individuals resided in what is currently Northern Illinois (Area 20). But, as in these early years, for the next 20 years, groups currently within the boundaries of Area 20 participated in the election of Delegates from all three Illinois Areas – 19, 20, and 21.

In 1950, Chairman Leonard Harrison had appointed Bernard B. (Bern) Smith to head a subcommittee of the Alcoholic Foundation Board. Smith's committee was established to explore Bill W.'s proposal for a General Service Conference as a direct link between the groups and AA's central service operations. For over five years, Bill had been at odds with the Board, primarily its alcoholic members, over his proposal. After only two meetings, Smith put the question to his subcommittee: "Shall we set up this Conference of delegates, or shall we forget about it?" To Bill's astonishment, they unanimously agreed to "give it a try."

Soon after, Bill visited Dr. Bob in Akron to "press" for his consent to his proposed Conference, an idea Dr. Bob had resisted to that point. Bill advised Bob that the Board would now likely give its consent to the idea. Dr. Bob finally gave Bill his endorsement for the Conference, saying, "Bill, it has to be AA's decision, not ours. Let's call that Conference. It's fine with me." As Bill was leaving, Dr. Bob offered a last remark that many today mistakenly relate to our legacy of recovery: "Remember, Bill, let's not louse this thing up. Let's keep it simple."

Following the Board's approval, a pamphlet "Your Third Legacy: Will You Accept It?" was published in November 1950 to explain the Conference plan and election procedures. While the pamphlet was at the printer, Dr. Bob passed away. The Third Legacy pamphlet set out a specific plan for the selection of the first two panels of Delegates to the Conference beginning in 1951 and 1952. A two-year rotation was established for each Delegate. Two Delegates from Illinois, one from Chicago and one from Springfield, were invited to serve on Panel 1. If contributions permitted, Illinois was to be allowed a third Delegate, whose election was to occur in Decatur the following year.

By early January 1951, over 1,000 groups had pledged their support, with only one letter opposed. Writing to the AA Group Secretaries on January 4, 1951, Bill detailed the response to the Third Legacy pamphlet and outlined his planned tour of 13 major cities to answer questions and oversee elections. Per this schedule, Bill met the representatives of the Illinois groups on February 12 and 13 in Chicago.

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The first "Downstate" election, scheduled to be held in Decatur on Monday, February 12, was relocated to Chicago because "Bill was here, and we wanted to avail ourselves of the privilege of meeting him and talking to him." Ward M. of Springfield was elected Panel 1 "Downstate" Delegate and George M. of Decatur, Alternate Delegate. It is not known precisely which Illinois groups outside the Chicago area participated in this election. The following day, representatives of groups from the Fox River Valley, Elgin and Waukegan through the north border were among the Chicago area groups that unanimously elected Luke H. as Chicago Area Delegate.

In late 1950, Illinois had been divided into sections for these Delegate elections. The following Committeemen and groups were listed in the 1956 AA Directory for what was then the northern portion of the Illinois Downstate Conference:

	<u>Area No. 1</u>	<u>Area No. 2</u>	<u>Area No. 3</u>	<u>Area No. 4</u>
Committeeman	Henry S. (Freeport)	Guy W. (Kewanee)	John M. (Lockport)	Richard W. (Quincy)
Groups	DeKalb Dixon Freeport Mt. Morris Ottawa Princeton Rochelle Rockford Sterling Mendota	Moline Monmouth Rock Island Galesburg Bushnell	Aurora Bradley Crescent City Joliet Kankakee Paxton-Rantoul Dwight	Bloomington Canton Macomb Peoria Quincy

Beginning in 1952, such Committeemen (now "District Committee Members") and group representatives from northern Illinois met each year with their counterparts from southern Illinois at the Downstate Spring Conference to jointly elect their Delegate. In 1952, George M. of Decatur was elected the Panel 2 Delegate. In this election and through 1960, the residence of those standing for Downstate Delegate was not a consideration. In the first ten elections, seven of those elected were from what is currently Southern Illinois and only three from Northern Illinois.

This joint annual election of a Downstate Delegate resulted in the de facto existence of a "Senior" and a "Junior" Delegate. Only the Senior Delegate in the second year of rotation had responsibility to report back to the membership, such reports to be given to groups throughout Illinois outside the Chicago area.

The Downstate membership itself appears to have been unaware of the uniqueness of its election process. However, during the 1959 General Service Conference, Panel 9 Downstate Delegate William S. had a conversation with Eve M. (Conference Secretary), Hazel R. (Staff

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contact for Illinois) and Joe F. (Grapevine Editor). The latter told him that the Downstate election process was "peculiar" to Illinois. In other states with more than one Delegate, "they all came from a specific area within the State and . . . reported to a Committee representing that specific area." William S. reported this conversation to the Downstate membership. The GSC Annual Report List of Delegates at the time confirms the information.

It was not until more than a dozen years later that Northern and Southern Illinois worked out the dissolution of the Downstate Conference structure. In 1973, Northern Illinois groups, including collar county groups previously affiliated with Area 19 that had petitioned to join Area 20, met for the first time as an Area 20 Assembly to elect their own Delegate. They selected Hank S. as the Panel 24 Delegate to the General Service Conference. The 1974 Annual Report lists Hank's home town as Kenosha Wisconsin.

From the Area Archivist

From The Editor

A special thank you to all those who contributed to this edition of the newsletter, this wouldn't be possible without you. Remember, this is YOUR newsletter and YOUR submissions are encouraged.

The area is still in need of a
Concepts Co-Editor, is this you?

Concepts Co-Editor Responsibilities:

- Manage the mailing database
- Solicit submissions of articles
- Assist the Editor as needed

Remember this is an appointed position, if you are interested please contact the Area Chair for more information.

DCM CORNER

District 52

Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month. We rotated in January. We have some openings, like Grapevine and accessibility. Our Treatment Chair is actively developing a program for A.A to come into 3 facilities. We need the books recently approved by the last assembly for our volunteers. September 14 will be a bonfire with dinner and speakers.

Respectfully submitted
Heather s. DCM D52

What's Your District Up To?

If you would like your District's News included in the Newsletter, please be sure to email the Editor for inclusion.
concepts@aa-nia.org

Announcements

Jun 21-23 Women's Retreat at Lorado Taft Campus on the Rock River

Jun22 Summer Assembly. District 12. More information TBA

Jul 12-14 East Central Regional Forum in Detroit, MI

Aug 3 Summer Committee meeting Lord of Life Church 40W605 IL-38
Elburn, IL 60119

Aug 9 – Aug 11 2019 AA Illinois State Conference @ Sheraton Lisle
Naperville Hotel 3000 Warrenville Rd Lisle, IL 60532

Aug 24 - "Getting the Word Out" Public Information Workshop @ Christ
Church of Oak Park

Sep 14 Fall Assembly. TBA in District 10

Oct 12 Fall Committee Meeting Lord of Life Church 40W605 IL-38 Elburn, IL
60119

Oct 18 – Oct 20 East Central Regional Conference – Area 75 @ Crowne Plaza
Milwaukee Airport 6401 South 13th Street Milwaukee, WI

Nov 2 Big Book Conference. District 23 & 40. More information TBA

Dec 7 Winter Assembly. District 11. More information TBA

If you would like your event listed in the announcements,
please email the Concepts Editor, concepts@aa-nia.org

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Comments, suggestions, subscription requests, and experience, strength and hope, should be directed to the editor:
Concepts@aa-nia.org

All A.A. members are encouraged to see Concepts on-line at: <http://www.aa-nia.org>

The current address for the NIA Treasurer is:

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CONCEPTS is a confidential document. It should be used and distributed within the Fellowship.

Due date for the Fall issue of Concepts Newsletter is August 3, 2019.





Happy, Joyous, & Free!

46th Annual A.A. Illinois State Conference
August 9th, 10th & 11th 2019
Hosted by District 43 & Northern IL Area 20
Sheraton Lisle-Naperville Hotel
3000 Warrenville Rd. Lisle, IL 60532
sheratonlisle.com ph. 630-505-1000
Room rate starting at \$99.00 (King) and
\$109.00 (Double) + Tax. Use Conference
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<p>For More Details Visit www.aailcon.org Contact: Erik L. 630-809-7789 George C. 630-244-5570</p>	<p>MAIN SPEAKERS: Friday: Tim R.—Hinsdale, IL Saturday: Sharon C.—Los Angeles, CA Sunday: Mark E.—Chesapeake, OH Sunday: Rick W.—New York GSO</p>	<p>Conference Start: Friday August 9th 2:00 PM Registration Desk Hours: Friday 2:00–9:00 pm Saturday 7:00 am—8:00 PM Sunday 7:00 am</p>
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For any accessibility needs please let us know by July 1st 2019
 Our email is: conference@aa-nia-dist43.org
 (Every effort will be made to accommodate special requests).
 

Conference Registration by mail, no later than 08/01/2019	
Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____ Email: _____ phone _____ Registration: \$25.00 ___ Banquet: \$40.00 ___ Total: \$ _____ Banquet choices circle one. 1.Thyme Chicken 2. Vegan 3. Gluten free options Please Specify (all that apply) : AA __, Area: __, District: __, Delegate: __, Panel: __, Guest: __, Al-Anon: __, Alateen: __ (no registration fee for Alateen)	<p>Mailing Address: District 43 P.O. Box 5390 Woodridge, Illinois 60517-5390 Make <u>Checks</u> payable to: <u>Northern Illinois</u> <u>Area, Ltd.</u></p> <p>—Pay Pal info go to www.aailcon.org Click online Registration Paypal</p>

