

Daily Reprieve

Area 22 District 21
Newsletter

March 15, 2014

Volume 4, Issue 1

District 21
Michigan City

AA 12th Step &
Answering Service

Conference Approved
Literature Source

Printed & On-Line

Local Meeting Info

Tradition Study &
District Group Conscious

AA Information
for Institutions

Special points of interest:

- ◆ Why the 7th Tradition is important
- ◆ Service Opportunity at the Michigan State Prison
- ◆ District Meeting Second Thursday of the Month
Michigan City Christian Church 11232 West Earl Road Michigan City
- ◆ Michigan City AA Hotline (219) -878-8808
- ◆ Our Web-site
www.MichiganCityAA.org

I'd Rather See a Sermon than Hear One

Sometimes Good Things Come Out of Bad

Before coming to AA sermon after sermon about my drinking were directed at me.

At first the sermons were merely obnoxious complaining.

Later the sermons included threats. If you don't stop your drinking, I'm going to leave you.

Get off my back about my drinking, I told her, I love it more than I love you.

Finally she left, opening the flood gate to a binge to end all binges....for me so far.

About a month later, sitting in the chair after a nice relaxing pint of Jim Beam for lunch, going to an AA meeting that evening seemed like a good idea.

There were 14 people at my first meeting. A few were a little put off that I had been drinking but they let me stay anyway.

Those AAs talked about their drinking, not my drinking. Not one of them scolded me for drinking too much. They shared their drinking experiences with me. Their drinking stories were quite familiar to me. When they asked

me if I wanted to speak, I said my name is George, I guess I'm an alcoholic.

I wanted what every one of those people had. They were mostly newcomers, talking about how good it was to be sober. Each one of them was showing me a good sermon.'

The next night I went to my second meeting, a smaller meeting at a church near me. Oh my goodness, no one was there. I felt so badly about myself in the beginning that my best thinking was they held the meeting somewhere else to avoid me.

An empty second meeting would be a perfect excuse for a newcomer to get drunk, but I didn't.

The third night there were about 10 people in attendance. They informed me that the meeting the night before had folded and they just hadn't changed the meeting list yet.

Their oversight could have killed me.

That delinquent meeting list was one of the big catalysts which has inspired me to be active in the AA Service Structure for all these years, carrying the message to those who need it, not just the ones who want it.

Carry Our Message to Those Who Need It

How Many People in Michigan City Need AA?

Recently an online article claimed 10% of the American Public suffers from Alcoholism. If there were 30,000 people living in Michigan City, the math tells us there are 3,000

people in our community who need AA.

At a recent meeting a newcomer, recently out of treatment told me, the real figures were 33,000 people in Michigan City and 13% of the population suffers from un-

treated Alcoholism That figures to over 4000 people in Michigan City who need us.

Get out of yourself. Come to the District Meeting and help carry our message to those who need it. The life you save could be your own.

Am I A Good Example?

If You've Decided You Want What We Have....

In How It Works, we invite the newcomer to take our inventory when we say "if you've decided you want what we have." The question is, what are we showing them?

The Same Person Will Drink Again

The Big Book story Keys t the Castle talks about how we've become different people in sobriety. The 12 & 12 at the end of the 12th

Step tells us how we've found happiness by working the steps and how different things become important to us in sobriety

A sober person can be defined as calm, honest, trust worthy, and having sound judgment.

Other places sobriety is defined as free from exaggeration or speculation, not given to excessive indulgence in drink or any other activity.

Of course for a recovering alcoholic to be sober means

absolute abstinence from alcohol. When we take a drink there is no way of knowing when we will stop.

Am I Sober or Just Dry?

Have I changed as described in the literature or am I just a drunken horse thief without the drink.

The Solution:

Go to meetings and learn to listen, work the steps and get a sponsor and other trusted friends to talk to and get the truth about yourself.

**Help
Wanted**

Newsletter Editor
Computer Literate
Able to Work with
People

Words cannot explain the joy many incarcerated AA members experience when able to attend a closed meeting of AA behind the walls. For many of them, it's the biggest joy of the week in a place which doesn't offer much happiness

Service Opportunity: Meetings at the State Prison

The community involvement section of the Indiana State Prison has requested us to provide AA meetings for the inmates.

Currently, AA Meetings are being held in the minimum security side of the Indiana State Prison in Michigan City.

Those meetings are being held Thursday Evening at seven o'clock.

The volunteer coordinator at the prison has requested for volunteers to conduct meetings at the maximum security side at a time to be worked out with the volunteers.

In order to serve on either side of the prison, all volunteers must attend orientation. Orientation will be held Tuesday June 3. In addition to the orientation volunteers must pass security screening, which is further described at orientation. See your Group Service Rep for more info.

Why is the Seventh Tradition So Important?

We are Self Supporting Through Our Own Contributions

The Seventh Tradition is important because it demonstrates we have recovered.

We are no longer a burden to other people's charity. We have been restored to good health. We can stand on our own two feet without someone else to hold us up.

Gone are the days of scheming to get others to finance our wild escapades like alcoholics hanging on in the bar begging for a drink.

Paying our own way is a big contributor to our self esteem. Living within our means is a good demonstration of sober living.

Are we presenting a healthy thriving environment to the newcomer encouraging them to come in, clean up and find a new, better way of life?

District 21 Meeting

2nd Thursday

**Michigan City Christian
Church**

11232 West Earl Road

District 21

Conference Approved

Book Prices

Big Book Hard Cover	\$8
Big Book Soft Cover.....	\$7
Big Book Large Print.....	\$8
12&12 Hard Cover.....	\$7
12&12 Soft Cover.....	\$7
12&12 Large Print.....	\$8
Living Sober.....	\$4
As Bill Sees It.....	\$8
Daily Reflections.....	\$8

See Your Group Rep to Purchase

District 21 Meeting Minutes 2/13/14

Meeting Opened at 7:05 pm with a moment of silence followed by the Serenity Prayer.

Minutes from January 9, 2014 were read. The minutes were approved.

Laurie gave the financial report for January 2014. Report was approved.

Helen renewed the advertisement with the Michigan City News Dispatch 2/13/2014.

Matt D. currently has the phone and is receiving calls.

George P. has prepared a preliminary copy of the newsletter and was going to polish it up for release next month.

George P. got an invoice from Gene Z. for mailing charges for publishing work he has done for us.

We had a discussion about the 2nd Tradition

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Meeting 4/10/14 at

The Michigan City Christian Church

11232 West Earl Road