

INTO ACTION



But we aren't a glum lot.
If newcomers could see no joy or fun in
our existence,
they wouldn't want it.

We absolutely insist on enjoying life.

BB, Page 132 – 17 lines from the top & 17 lines from the bottom

Remember...

RULE 62

Don't take
yourself
so seriously!!



Word around the office is that you
Have a Bad Attitude



He's either a Spy or an
AA'er HAVING a SLIP



"Fr'end o' mine Went in there once
an' NOBODY'S SEEN HIM SINCE!"



When I Want to Stop I
can't – When I can
Stop I don't Want to..



I can't join –
I ain't hit bottom yet



Wipe your mouth,
there's still a tiny
bit of bullshit
around your lips.

OPEN 24 HOURS



INTO ACTION Editorial Policy

INTO ACTION News is a bimonthly newsletter of District 11; NIA 20 of Alcoholics Anonymous. It is about, by and for the Members of the Fellowship of AA. Opinions expressed herein are NOT to be attributed to AA as a whole, nor does publication of information imply any endorsement by AA. Quotations and artwork from AA literature are reprinted with permission from AA World Service, Inc. and/or The AA Grapevine, Inc. Submissions are edited for space and clarity ONLY. Contact information is required and anonymity is respected.

THE DRS OPINION LAST LINE

From Dr. Silkworth's letter, it is quoted from Oliver Goldsmith, "The Deserted Village," with an echo in the story in "Tom Sawyer" about whitewashing the fence.

I was thrilled stumble across the origin of the last line of Dr. Silkworth's letter on page xxxii in The Doctor's Opinion.

The sentence reads, "I earnestly advise every alcoholic to read this book through, and though perhaps he came to scoff, he may remain to pray."

Several months ago in my Doctors Office, I was reading "Tom Sawyer" When we read the famous second chapter where Tom tricks the boys in the neighborhood to pay him for the privilege of whitewashing the fence for him. Mark Twain writes, "...they came to jeer but remained to whitewash." The footnote then refers us to "The Deserted Village," a poem written in 1770 by Oliver Goldsmith. Lines 177-180 read, At church, with meek and unaffected grace,/His looks adorned the venerable place ;/Truth from his lips prevailed the double sway,/And fools, who came to scoff, remained to pray."

THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF IA IS September 22nd, 2012.

THE THEME FOR THE Oct/Nov., 2012 ISSUE OF INTO ACTION IS: The Growth Steps; Steps 10, 11, 12, or anything you wish to submit.

Welcome Mary E. To The INTO ACTION Staff

INTO Action: District 11's Newsletter

Editor: David Gilbert 815-344-6523

E-mail: Soulsurgery@comcast.net

District 11's G.S.R.
Meetings Are Held
On 1st Thursday of
the Month at the
McHenry Alano Club;
409 Front Street-Unit D
(route 31) McHenry, IL



District Meeting 7:30 PM

DISTRICT 11's WEB SITE:↓

<http://www.aa-nia-dist11.org>

DISTRICT 11 SECETARY:↓

secretary@aa-nia-dist11.org

SOBERFEST WEB SITE:↓

<http://www.soberfest.org/>

NIA 20 EVENTS WEB SITE:↓

<http://www.aa-nia.org/events.html>

NEW GROUP & INFO. CHANGE FORMS↓

<http://www.aa-nia.org/forms.html>

LIVE LINKS

****SCHEDULE INFO CHANGES:**
PLEASE E-MAIL Bill J. ~~ EMAIL to:
schedulemaker@gmail.com

↓ CONTRIBUTIONS ↓

From Group (Name) _____

Group #: _____

Dist. #: _____

Meeting City: _____

Northern Illinois District Eleven

P.O. Box 846

McHenry, IL 60051-0846

N.I.A. Treasurer

NIA LTD

PO Box 241

Elburn, IL 60119

The General Service Office

AAWS

P.O. Box 459

Grand Central Station

New York, NY 10163-0459



Please Make Contributions to:

Monthly Meeting Minutes District 11 July 5, 2012

(Editor's Note: Dates and times contained in the following minutes are a reflection from the minutes taken on July 5th, 2012 not the date of this publication.)
(SOME UPDATES - THX)



Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the thinking of Alcoholics Anonymous, NIA, District 11 or the Editor(s).

Meeting Time: 7:30 PM

Attendance: 20

Committee Members 10

Groups Represented: 15

Anniversaries

Happy Anniversary to: Pat C. 5 Years, Mitch P. 4 Years, and Holly H. 1 Year. Great job everyone!!

Secretary's Report: Lynn V. Sec. (Alt Sec. Holly H.)

We have all the forms at the table for updates and changes for your group. We have District report forms and reimbursement forms, and District envelopes.

Carol H. is going to bring binders for the committee members at the Aug 2nd meeting. Thank you Carol for your help here. Carol is also going to help with putting the job descriptions together for the committees.

Written committee report forms must be submitted to the secretary to be included in the minutes. The new E-Mail for the secretary is secretary@aa-nia-dist11.org

DCM Report David G. – DCM (alt. Jen A.)

DCM REPORT

July 5, 2012

Treasurer Report: David Clough (alt. Open)

\$570.40 was collected from the mailbox on **July 3rd**.

Receipts will be sent this weekend.

June Account Summary

Starting balance: \$8450.73

Total Income: \$ 798.34

Total Expenses: \$1016.17

Ending balance: \$8232.90

Yours in Service,

David Clough

Area 20 District 11 Treasurer 847-477-6440

Public Information Report Billy C. (alt. Open position – P.I.R.)

Attended Area Summer Assembly, went to Akron Ohio for Founders day. Billy attended a P.I. workshop, sent out letters to Area High School Guidance Counselors seeing what they need for upcoming school year.



Corrections Report: Carol H. (alt Jim R.)

We are completing the Step program and have seen positive results in the correctional facilities. 11 Men are on a waiting list to do the program. Carol reports there was a lot of information at the Assembly and that Richie H. did a wonderful job. People in the jails are losing their jobs due to cuts all over the board. McHenry County has 13 programs like AA.

Carol also reports that the Flying Geese will assist the Special needs committee if needed.

The 23rd annual Bridge the Gap Weekend Workshop (BTGWW) will be held on Friday September 6, 2013 through Sunday September 8, 2013 at the Hyatt Regency Schaumburg, 1800 E. Golf Road, and Schaumburg. District 11 presented a proposal to host the workshop in Northern Illinois Area 20 (NIA) to the 2011 winter assembly and the area agreed to support the proposal to host this workshop. We will begin planning meetings for the workshop in June 2012, date and location to be determined. We will need volunteers for the registration table and sponsors for the hospitality room. If you would like to get involved or have your group support this event please contact the BTGWW Chair Carol H. at corrections@aa-nia-dist11.org. Participants at the BTGWW will be AA's involved or interested in 12th step work through various General Service and Intergroup Committees like Treatment, Corrections, CPC, PI, H&I, etc. AA's from

Across the U.S. and Canada will attend, many sharing their experiences on BTG topics.

Hospital & Treatment Report Kevin K. (alt Craig W.)

Kevin email me, (Lynn) saying there was no report.

Billy gave the report for Hospital & Treatment. They are in the process of getting a radio and TV. Spot on PBS in McHenry County DVD and C.D. from GSO, he is also involved with the Drug court.



(Continued on the next page)

(Continued from Page 3)

Answering service Mitch P. (Alternate Pat C.)
May 2012 Answering Service

Total Calls 90;

**Meeting Info.-60; Open Mtg. Info.-1; Speak to AA-16;
 NA-0; 1 12th Step Calls- 3; Q. about AA-1; Out of
 Dist.-1; Al-anon-0; Needs Ride-2; Treatment O-; 2 BTG-
 0; Hang Up – 3; Refused to give Call Back Number-4**

**0-10 Mins. – 71; 11-20 Mins. – 10; 2-30 Mins. – 3; Over
 30 Mins. 0**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
18 Day	14 Day	9 Day	12 Day	13 Day
1 Night	0 Night	1 Night	4 Night	2 Night
Saturday	Sunday			
5 Day	5 Day			
5 Night	1 Night			

***Answering service is looking for volunteers to take the
 7:00 P.M. – 7:00 A.M.

**Mitch P. – Answering Service Chair Pat C. – Alternate
 Answering Service Chair**
 Gratefully In Service of AA

Grapevine Report: Tim B (Chair) Cary V. (Co-chair)
 No report

Special Needs Report: Open

CPC Report: Frank S (alt. Brady C.)

I have spoken with several AA related type services,
 mostly DUI driving class business and half way homes to
 see what if any literature we could help them with as well
 as making myself known if they have any questions or
 needs, also made it known we have bridge the gap
 services for those whom them work with who decide they
 want actual help from AA member/s

Workshop John S.
No Report.

LCM Report (alt Open position – LCM)
John F. – LCM
No report.

Schedules Bill J. (alt. Open)
No report.

Archives R - Clarence J. – Archives
Open Position – Archives Alt
No report.

UP-DATED

Newsletter Report: Dave G, (Alternate open)

**The August/September issue is out. SEPTEMBER 22nd
 is the deadline for the October/November issue; the
 theme for Oct//November is:**

“Growth –Steps 10, 11 & 12”

Webmaster Report: Doug W, (Alternate Open)

2900 hits on the site since count began.

There have been approximately 2000 hits on the site since
 monitoring began. The district’s secretary had the
 mailbox she was using for district business hacked. Her
 new webmail address is secretary@aa-nia-dist11.org
 Please make a note of it. Any other district officer who
 wishes to use the district’s webmail can contact the
 webmaster and I will set it up for you.

Doug may have someone interested in being his alternate,
 he will let us know next month.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Doug W

- **Old Business:**
- **New Business**
- **Upcoming events**
- **Open Mic –**

Alden Terrace needs support for their meeting.

Burton Bridge needs support for their 8:00 p.m. meeting

Design for living had a great picnic this year even though
 it was 100 degrees

UP-DATED

**THE NEXT DISTRICT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON
 THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6TH, 2012**

Respectfully Submitted, Lynn V. Secretary,

Holly H. Alt. Secretary

LITERARY FACTOID:



WHEN HE WASN'T DRINKING, HE WAS
 KNOWN SIMPLY AS "MOBY" AMONGST
 HIS FISH FRIENDS.

23rd Annual McHenry Soberfest

Al-Anon FunRaiser

**SATURDAY,
AUGUST 4**

**MCHENRY TOWNSHIP HALL
RT. 31 AND JOHNSBURG ROAD**

Doors Open @ 5:00 pm...
Speakers start at 7:00 pm

•**PAM B. – AL-ANON – MCHENRY**
•**MATT S. – AA – LAKEMOOR**

**Following the super success
of the AA FunRaiser in May,
here we go for the Summer
version. Don't miss this
event.**

- Food and Fellowship
- Raffles - 50/50 –
- A Few Surprises
- Silent Auction
- Alateen Bake Sale
- Dancing with our DJ friends!

CONTACTS:

•Kim U.
815.236.3823

•Amy .
847.445.6867

•Judy M.
815.353.9722



+ Alateen Bake Sale

EVENTS

**08/04 – 23rd ANNUAL MCHENRY
AL-ANON FUNRAISER –
SEE ATTRACTION FLYER**

**08/04 NIA SUMMER COMMITTEE
MEETING, LORD OF LIFE CHURCH,
40W605 IL RTE 38 @ LAFOX RD,
LA FOX, IL.**

**08/10-12 EAST CENTRAL REGION ADDITIONAL
FORUM, HOLIDAY INN & CONV. CTR., MT
VERNON, IL**

**08/24-26 ILLINOIS STATE CONFERENCE,
HILTON HOTEL, 420 W ADAMS, SPRINGFIELD,
IL, LEO 217-546-0156 OR MARY 217-528-7449**

**09/07-09 BRIDGING THE GAP WORKSHOP WEEKEND,
MINNEAPOLIS – ST PAUL AIRPORT HILTON HOTEL,
3800 AMERICAN BLVD, BLOOMINGTON, MN, MICHAEL
816-304-7537**

**09/13-16 54th ICYPAA CONFERENCE, MILLENNIUM
HOTEL ST LOUIS, 200 S 4th ST, ST. LOUIS, MO,
CONTACT@ICYPAAHOST.ORG**

**09/15 NIA FALL ASSEMBLY, FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF WHEATON, 615 WEST JEFFERSON @ ELLIS,
WHEATON, MARK 847-
712-0401**

**09/22 CHICAGO OPEN, UIC PAVILION, RACINE &
HARRISON, CHICAGO, IL, OPEN 6:00 PM, MEETING 8:00
PM**

**10/06 12th ANNUAL A WAY OUT ANNIVERSARY PARTY,
FELLOWSHIP & FOOD 6:00 PM, SPEAKER 7:30 PM, CIVIC
CENTER, 135 W CHURCH ST, LIBERTYVILLE, IL, EARL
312-451-2930**

**10/13 DISTRICT 52 911 GROUP CPC WORKSHOP, 1:00-
4:00 PM, MANTENO COMMUNITY CTR, 211 N MAIN ST,
MANTENO, IL**

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and do not necessarily reflect the thinking of
Alcoholics Anonymous, NIA 20, District 11 or the
Editor(s).*

WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT



A panhandler asked well-dressed man: "Sir, could you lend me a buck until pay day?" "I'd be glad to; but tell me, when is pay day?" "You tell me, sir, you're the one who's working."

A passenger in a taxi leaned over to ask the driver, an alcoholic, a question and tapped him on the shoulder. The driver screamed, lost control of the cab, nearly hit a bus, drove up over the curb, and stopped just inches from a large plate glass window. For a few moments everything was silent in the cab, and then the still shaking alcoholic driver said, "I'm sorry but you scared the daylights out of me." The passenger said he didn't realize a mere tap on the shoulder could frighten him so much. The driver replied, "No, no, I'm sorry, it's my entire fault, today is my first day driving a cab, I've been driving a hearse for the last 25 years."

There was a knock at the door and someone said, "Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms - I let them in - I thought they were delivering supplies"

Northern Illinois Area 20 Spring Committee

Meeting

AUGUST 4, 2012

Hosted by District 71

**Lord of Life Church
40W605 IL Route 38,
La Fox, IL 60119**

REGISTRATION: 8:00 A.M.

MEETING 9:00 A.M.

Lunch \$STBD10

Information Contact:

Chieffalk1952@aol.com

***Lord of Church is located at the
southeast corner of IL Route 38 and
LaFox Road. LaFox Road is 3 ½ miles
west of Randall Road and 3 ½ miles
east of IL Route 47.***

A pessimist sees the glass as half empty, an optimist sees the glass as half full, an economist sees the glass as too large, an engineer sees the glass twice as big as it ought to be, and an alcoholic sees the glass as pointless.

**Helplessness
Brings
Serenity**

We are not a glum lot-- continued

A man stood in front of a group of alcoholics and performed an experiment. He brought out two jars, one containing pure, clear water and the other 150 proof ethyl alcohol. He placed a worm in the water; the worm swam around, then was removed. He then placed the worm in the alcohol, and the worm disintegrated. He turned to the audience and asked for the moral of the experiment. A hush came over the room. After a brief pause, a man in the rear bellowed out, "If you drink alcohol, you'll never have worms."

A man is in bed with his wife when there is a rat-a-tat-tat on the door. He rolls over and looks at his clock, and it's half past three in the morning. "I'm not getting out of bed at this time," he thinks, and rolls over. Then, a louder knock follows. "Aren't you going to answer that?" says his wife. So he drags himself out of bed and goes downstairs. He opens the door and there is a man standing at the door. It doesn't take the homeowner long to realize the man is drunk. "Hi there," slurs the stranger. "Can you give me a push?" "No, get lost! It's half past three! I was in bed!" screams the man as he slams the door. He goes back up to bed and tells his wife what happened. She remarks, "Dave, that wasn't very nice of you. Remember that night we broke down in the pouring rain on the way to pick the kids up from the babysitter, and you had to knock at that man's house to get us started again? What would have happened if he'd told us to get lost?" → → →

Northern Illinois Area 20

Fall Assembly

**SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 15**

Hosted By District 40

First Presbyterian Church of Wheaton

715 Carlton Avenue

Wheaton, IL 60189

Parking is available in church lot at the corner
of North Ellis Ave. and West Jefferson Ave.

Or on nearby streets. NOT ON ELLIS.

<http://firstpreswheaton.org/about/location.shtml>

Registration begins: 8:00 A.M.

Meeting begins: 9:00 A.M.

Lunch provided, cost- TBD

INFORMATION CONTACT:

MARK K. - 847-712-0401

"But the guy was drunk," says the husband. "It doesn't matter," explains the wife. "He needs our help and it would be nice to help him." So the husband gets out of bed again, gets dressed and goes downstairs. He opens the door, but he can't see the stranger anywhere in the dark. So he shouts, "Hey, do you still want a push?" He hears a voice cry out, "Yes, please." "Where are you?" shouts the homeowner. The stranger calls back, "I'm over here, on your swing."

ASAP = Always Say A Prayer

PUSH = Pray Until Something Happens

We are not a glum lot--continued

A alcoholic man and his Al-Anon wife went to bed early after securely locking their house because a prisoner escaped from a prison where he has been kept for 15 years that day. The escapee got himself a bottle and tried to make up for lost time. He finished the bottle and broke into the house where the alcoholic and his wife were to look for money, guns and more booze. He finds the couple in bed. He orders the guy out of bed and ties him to a chair. He then ties the wife to the bed, gets on top of her, kisses her on the neck, gets up and goes into the bathroom. While he's in there, the husband tells his wife: "Listen, this guy is an escaped prisoner. Just look at his clothes! He probably spent lots of time in jail, and hasn't seen a woman in years. I saw how he kissed your neck. If he wants sex, don't resist, don't complain, do what he tells you, just give him satisfaction, no matter how much he ravages you. This guy is probably extremely dangerous. If he gets angry, he'll kill us. Be strong, honey. I love you" Upon hearing this advice she responds, "He wasn't kissing my neck. He was whispering in my ear. He told me he was gay, thought you were cute, and asked if we kept any Vaseline in the bathroom. I told him where to find it. Be strong, honey. I love you, too."

XXX

Around the Tables

District 11's Wisdom and Witticisms

- ❖ If you have a bug up your butt it is your bug!
- ❖ "The twelfth step does NOT say, 'Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these meetings.'"
- ❖ When I share my experience, strength, and hope, I'm speaking the language of my heart. When I share my opinion, I'm speaking the language of my head.
- ❖ "I heard a woman talking about being a "medium bottom drunk" --- that means she lost her integrity and scruples, but managed to hold on to her furniture!"



More SPONSOR SPIRITUAL JUIITSU



AS MY SPONSOR AND I WERE TALKING, SHE HELD UP A GLASS OF WATER. I KNEW SHE WAS GOING TO ASK ME IF I THOUGHT THE GLASS WAS HALF EMPTY OR HALF FULL, AND I WAS TRYING TO FORMULATE A RESPONSE WHEN INSTEAD SHE ASKED HOW MUCH I THOUGHT THE GLASS WEIGHED.

I COULDN'T IMAGINE.

SHE REPLIED, "THE ABSOLUTE WEIGHT DOESN'T MATTER. IT REALLY DEPENDS ON HOW LONG I HOLD IT. IF I HOLD IT FOR A MINUTE, THAT'S NOT A PROBLEM. IF I HOLD IT FOR AN HOUR, I'LL HAVE AN ACHE IN MY ARM. IF I HOLD IT FOR A DAY, YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE ME TO EMERGENCY. IN EACH CASE, IT'S THE SAME WEIGHT, BUT THE LONGER I HOLD IT, THE HEAVIER IT BECOMES.

"MY EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN THAT IS THE SAME WAY IT IS WITH RESENTMENTS. IF I CARRY RESENTMENTS ALL THE TIME, SOONER OR LATER THEY BECOME INCREASINGLY HEAVY AND I WON'T BE ABLE TO CARRY ON. BUT WHEN I PUT THEM DOWN, MY LOAD IS LIGHTENED AND I CAN MOVE ON."

- ❖ "I don't like the idea of sobriety being like an onion . . . all those layers and tears. Why can't sobriety be like a banana . . . peel it once and be done with it!"
- ❖ I was told that a bottom is when my life is getting worse faster than I can lower my standards.
- ❖ I don't think I have it all together yet, but I sure don't feel as apart as I used to!
- ❖ I like the "3 R's" concept of forgiving, especially if the action is severe enough: Regret, Remorse, Repair
- ❖ When I sat down with my sponsor to do my fifth step, she said to me, "I have no secrets of my own that I will take to the grave. However, I will be taking yours."