

INTO ACTION

CONFIDENTIAL

October/November 2013

BIG BOOK PAGE 85

"It is easy to let up on the spiritual program of action and rest on our laurels. We are headed for trouble if we do, for alcohol is a subtle foe. We are not cured of alcoholism. **What we really have is a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of our spiritual condition.** Every day is a day when we must carry the vision of God's will into all of our activities. "How can I best serve Thee - Thy will (not mine) be done." These are thoughts which must go with us constantly. We can exercise our will power along this line all we wish. It is the proper use of the will."

According to the Merriam Webster Dictionary, the word "reprieve" means: 1 : to delay the punishment of (as a condemned prisoner) 2 : to give relief or deliverance to for a time

"One day at a time" and "I don't have to drink today" are popular sayings in Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous (pg, 85) says "We are not cured of alcoholism. What we really have is a daily reprieve contingent on the maintenance of our spiritual condition."

Both dictionary definitions of reprieve can be applied to the recovering alcoholic. When an alcoholic is actively drinking, he is the same as a condemned prisoner--condemned to a life of jails, institutions, or even death. When the alcoholic finally gets into recovery and learns that he doesn't have to drink today, he is given a reprieve.

The punishment to his body, to his self-esteem, and to his loved ones is delayed as long as the alcoholic stays sober. The recovering alcoholic is given relief or deliverance to for a time from the effects of his alcoholism.

Notice that the Big Book of AA places a contingency on the daily reprieve. For the alcoholic to get a daily reprieve, he must first maintain his spiritual condition on a daily basis. Maintaining will get us through this day but I need to grow.

"For if an alcoholic failed to perfect and enlarge spiritual life through work and self-sacrifice for others, he could not survive the certain trials and low spots ahead. If he did not work, he would surely drink again, and if he drank, he would surely die. Then faith would be dead indeed. With us it is just like that. (BB pages 14-15)

This means that the recovering alcoholic must communicate with his Higher Power, or God, on a daily basis and ask for help to stay sober that day. He must then allow his actions to be led by God and not indulge his self will.

As the daily reprieves add up, the recovering alcoholic will notice his mind becoming clearer, his health improving, his relationships getting better, and his self-esteem increasing. He will learn how to live life on life's terms without alcohol--one day at a time.

How do I get a Daily reprieve? Steps 10, 11 & 12;

**CONTINUE,
SEEK, TRY
& PRACTICE**



DCM REPORT

District 11/NIA 20

October 3rd, 2013

Good Day Everyone,

I Attended the BTG Workshop is held September 6th – 8th at the Hyatt Regency, in Schaumburg. The workshop consisted of presentations & discussions on BTG (Bridge the Gap) such as “Starting a BTG Committee”, “Creating a Volunteer List”, “Making Presentations to Facilities”. Professionals involved with BTG work were present. **Carol H., who chaired the event, was elected chairperson for the next two years for the nation BTG Workshop. Carol is currently Chairman for the Corrections Committee for District 11 and will be rotating out to her newly elected NIA 20, Area are position as Treatment Chair.**

I was present at the Fall Assembly which was held on September 14th at the Lord of Life Church in LaFox and was hosted by District 42. All Area Candidate Positions were voted on and thanks to all from District 11 who attended and voted.

Conference Reports Voted On:

1. 2013 State Conference (D. 22& 23)
2. Annual BTG Weekend Workshop (NIA 20)
3. 2013 Big Book Conference (D. 62)
4. 2014 Spring Assembly Conference (D. 10,11,12)
5. Delegates Past & Present Conference (NIA 20)
6. 2014 State Conference (Area 19)

Service Committee Breakout Meetings were held after lunch and then area Business.

Area Business

1. Bids for the 2014 Big Book Conference
2. Bids for the 2015 Spring Assembly Conference
3. Motion by the Finance Committee to amend the guidelines for the prudent reserve
4. Motion by the Finance Committee to add to the procedures for presenting motions
5. Motion by the Finance Committee to amend the finance committee guideline

The 2013 Big Book Conference, will be on October 26th and is being hosted by District 62, held at the St. Luke's Church 63 Fernwood Rd. in Montgomery, IL 60538. Michelle H 630-639-8366 or Dan L 630-913-8888. <http://dist62.aa-nia.org>

I also attended the 2014 Spring Conference Planning Committee meeting on September 8th. “Living in 10, 11 & 12”, hosted by Districts 10, 11 & 12. We met at the Holiday Inn Gurnee Conference Center for a walk-thru of the facility and after held our meeting at the Holiday Inn. The event will be held on March 28-30th, 2014. Meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday of the month at the Joy Lutheran Church Gurnee, 749 S. Hunt Club Rd., Gurnee IL 60031. VOLUNTEERS are need for Greeters, Alcahons, Hospitality Room etc....come and join us.

The Fall Committee Meeting will be held on October 19th at the Lord of Life Church in LaFox and will be hosted by District 10.

District 11 elections are being held at the October 3rd District meeting.

Event information available at District 11's web site: <http://aa-nia-dist11.org/> Under the Events tab.

Respectfully Yours in Service,
David G.

DCM District 11--NIA 20

"An alcoholic is a fellow who is 'trying to get his religion out of a bottle,' when what he really wants is unity within himself, unity with God...." —Bill Wilson, AA cofounder

"We hope we have made clear the distinction between the alcoholic and the non-alcoholic. If when you honestly want to, you find you cannot quit entirely, or if when drinking, you have little control over the amount you take, you are probably alcoholic. If that be the case, you may be suffering from an illness which only a spiritual experience will conquer." —page 44, AA text

"None of us would be here today if somebody hadn't taken time to explain things to us, to give us a little pat on the back, to take us to a meeting or two, to do numerous little kind and thoughtful acts in our behalf. So let us never get such a degree of smug complacency that we're not willing to extend, or attempt to extend, to our less fortunate brothers that help which has been so beneficial to us." —Dr. Bob

Monthly Meeting Minutes

District 11

September 5th, 2013

(Editor's Note: Dates and times contained in the following minutes are a reflection from the minutes taken on September 5, 2013 not the date of this publication.)

Meeting time: 7:30pm

Attendance: 27

Committee members: 12

Groups represented: 15

New GSRs present: 4

Anniversaries: Mary F. with 26 years and Bill M. with 8 years

Secretary's Report: Kelly G. Secretary, Pete L. Alt Secretary

All the group change and new group information has been submitted the Area Registrar to update the FNV which will be sent out November 1st to the secretaries and DCMs. I will be working with Ryan to get the schedule updated with the new information.

Please send written committee reports to secretary to submitted into minutes.

Email: secretary@aa-nia-dist11.org

DCM Report: David G. DCM, Jen A. Alt DCM

I Attended the Summer Committee meeting on August 10th in La Fox where some agenda reports were given on:

Conference Reports

1. 2013 State Conference (D22&23)
2. Annual BTG Workshop Weekend
3. 2013 Big Book Conference (D62)
4. 2014 Spring Conference (D10,11,12)
5. Delegates Past and Present Conference (Area 20)

I attended the State Conference which was held at the Hyatt Regency in Schaumburg on August 23-25. It was hosted by Districts 22 & 23. Support was good. I don't have the final numbers yet but they look promising to break even. It was really put together well and there was never a want for something to do...the program was loaded.

The BTG Workshop is being held this weekend, at the same place, the Hyatt Regency, 1800 E Golf Road in Schaumburg, September 6-8 Hyatt Regency Schaumburg. The Twenty-third Annual Bridging The Gap Workshop Weekend will consist of presentations and discussions on BTG topics of interest to the registered participants such as "Starting a BTG Committee", "Creating a Volunteer List", and "Making Presentations to Facilities". Participants will be A.A.'s involved or interested in 12 step work through various General Service and Intergroup Committees like Treatment, Corrections, CPC, PI, H&I, etc. Professionals involved with BTG work will also present. A.A.'s from across the U.S. and Canada will attend, many sharing their experiences on BTG topics. Pre-Registration \$35. On-site Registration \$40. Day pass only \$25.

The 2013 Big Book Conference, will be on October 26th and is being hosted by District 62, held at the St. Luke's Church 63 Fernwood Rd. in Montgomery, IL 60538. Contacts- Michelle H 630-639-8366 or Dan L 630-913-8888.

I also attended the 2014 Spring Conference Planning Committee's meeting on August 11 at Joy Lutheran Church; 749 S. Hunt Club Rd. ; Gurnee IL 60031. Meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday of the month except for the September 8th meeting which we will be having a walk-thru at the Holiday Inn Conference Center.

At the last District 11 meeting we voted on having our District 11 elections on October 3rd, at the District meeting. Sobriety details and job descriptions will be posted on District 11's web site within the near future.

Treasurer Report: David C. Treasurer, Bill M. Alt Treasurer \$663.92 was collected from the mailbox on Sept 3rd and will be deposited shortly. \$96 was received in cash at the Aug district meeting from the Monday Night BB Priority Group at St. Mary's in Algonquin. A check for \$600 has been cut for GSO and will be reflected in next month's report. A check for \$900 has been cut for Area 20 and will also be reflected in the October report. This will bring us back to our prudent reserve of \$6000.

Account Summary

Starting balance: \$ 7,492.98

August Income: \$ 759.92

Total Expenses: \$ 757.88

Ending balance: \$ 7,495.02

July Meeting Contributions

Flying Geese \$ 51.00

Sun Night Beginners 135243 \$ 60.00

Tues Night Riverside 659638 \$ 50.00

Tues Night Big Book 132066 \$ 40.00

Discussion 679445 \$ 25.00

Tues 12&12 655943 \$ 20.00

Big Book Study 104182 \$ 20.00

New Pair of Glasses 666210 \$ 60.00

HALT 653426 \$ 54.16

Dawn Patrole 698797 \$ 186.00

Dave- At past meeting it was agreed to have \$300 set aside for the BTG Workshop to reimburse individuals from the district for gas, registration, and food. Contact Carol H.

Public Information Report: Isidro B. Chair, Brandon W. Alt Chair No report

Corrections Report: Carol H. Chair, Jim R. Alt Chair

We now have six Spanish-speaking volunteers after Rich H. went to the Spanish District meeting and announced the need for volunteers. Volunteers, male and female, are still needed. All volunteers have had to go through a new process for the jail to reinstate themselves as volunteers.

Hospital & Treatment Report: Kevin K. Chair, OPEN Alt No report

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Answering Service Report: Mitch P. Chair, Pat C. Alt Chair
 Total Calls – 89 (2% decrease in calls as compared to August 2012)

Call Details

Meeting Information - 43
 Open Meeting Information 4
 Speak To AA Member - 16
 NA - 2
 12th Step Calls - 3
 Questions About AA - 7
 Out of District Calls - 0
 Al-Anon - 1
 Need a Ride - 2
 Treatment Information - 2
 Bridge the Gap - 0
 Spanish Speaking – 1

Call Response Times

0–10 Minutes - 56
 11-20 Minutes - 16
 21-30 Minutes - 8
 Over 30 Minutes - 2

Calls per Day

Monday - 12 Day, 4 Night
 Tuesday - 11 Day, 1 Night
 Wednesday - 11 Day, 1 Night
 Thursday - 12 Day, 1 Night
 Friday - 8 Day, 3 Night
 Saturday - 12 Day, 2 Night
 Sunday - 8 Day, 3 Night

**Day is 7am to 7pm,
 Night is 7pm to 7am**

Hang Ups - 4
 Refused Call Back Number -3

**Missing Person Call – 1
 (Sister Tammy looking for
 brother Edward K.)
 8/9/2013 (2 Months)**

CPC Report: OPEN Chair, OPEN Alt
 Frank has stepped down as chair due to moving.

Archives Report: Clarence J. Chair
 No report

Grapevine Report: Tim B. Chair, OPEN Alt
 No report

Special Needs Report: Bill B. Chair, OPEN Alt
 No report

LCM Report: Ryan R. Chair, OPEN Alt
 No report

Schedules Report: Ryan R. Chair, OPEN Alt

Would like to ask district to buy a computer designated for the purpose of making schedules. Also since it is necessary for this service position to have a computer it only makes sense that there would be a computer designated for this position.

Doug W. - Proposed an agenda item for November to acquire a computer for the schedules Motion made to have 2500 schedules printed presently due to the current lack of schedules in district. (Dave P.) Motion seconded by Scott D.

Discussion – the schedules are the most important piece of literature; it is only about 17 cents a schedule; it would be smart to only print enough to get through a month (1000) because the schedule won't be updated until then; if too many schedules are printed before the schedule is updated when the updated version comes out all the past schedules will be wasted.

Vote – Majority voted against
 Motion made to print 1000 schedules presently until changes are made. (Doug W.) Motion seconded by Mitch P.

Vote – Majority vote for. Motion passed.
Newsletter Report: David G. Chair, Matt G. Alt Chair
 The August/September edition is out. The deadline for the October/November issue is September 21st. The theme will be Daily Reprieve. Any submissions are welcome.

Webmaster: Doug W. Chair, OPEN Alt
 We had 2377 total visits from 8/08 to 9/04/2013. The majority of the visits were to the closed meeting schedule and the events page. There were 164 visits to the IntoAction newsletter online.

Workshop Report: OPEN Chair, OPEN Alt No Report

Open Mic:
 The AA Service Social is taking place on September 21st. Area 20's Alternate Delegate will be facilitating and members of our district will be speaking about the service positions they hold. Please pass the word along.

For the 2014 Spring Conference a walkthrough of the Holiday Inn in Gurnee will be taking place on September 8th. Alternate Grapevine and Alternate Secretary are the two open positions on the committee. Help is needed with greeting, hospitality, and registration. The committee's budget is based on 600 registrations and early registration is appreciated. A table for the conference will be set up at the at the upcoming Assembly.

Old Business:
 Standing committee positions to fill: Alt Hospital/Treatment, CPC Chair, Alt CPC, Alt Special Needs, Alt Schedules/LCM, Workshop Chairperson

EVENTS

October 5th- A Way Out 13th Anniversary Party at the Libertyville Civic Center, 135 W Church St, Libertyville, IL. Contact: Bruce-(773)807-3647

October 19th- NIA Fall Committee Meeting hosted by District 10 at Lord of Life Church, 40W605, IL Rte 38 @ La Fox Rd

October 26th- Big Book Conference hosted by District 62 at St. Luke's Church, 63 Fernwood Rd., Montgomery, IL 60538. Contact: Michelle-(630)639-8366

October 27th- District 10 and 12 Fall Breakfast at Saddle Ridge, Waukegan

November 15th-17th- East Central Regional Forum hosted by Area 22 in Fort Wayne, IN

November 22nd-24th- McHenry's Annual Soberfest at the Grand Geneva, Lake Geneva, WI

December 4th- NIA Winter Assembly hosted by District 61 at the Lord of Life Church, 40W605, IL Rte 38 @ La Fox Rd.



**IT'S A
 WE PROGRAM-
 PICK UP THE
 PHONE ♥**