

Newsletter

Visit our website for blog articles, meeting schedules, and an events calendar!

www.siouxfallsaa.org

The monthly online bulletin of the Sioux Falls Area Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous

Please print and distribute for your AA group.



What is Intergroup?

The Sioux Falls Area Intergroup exists to serve groups in the greater Sioux Falls area and aid them in their common purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the still suffering alcoholic.

Please attend our next Intergroup meeting, and help "the hand of A.A." to be available for the still suffering alcoholic!

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

First Sunday of each month

- Intergroup meetings (5:00 pm)
- District 5 Meetings (6:00 pm)

Westside Alano Club
1509 W. 1st St.
Sioux Falls, SD

Contact your intergroup or district representative for more information or come to a meeting and get involved.

Web Committee Meeting

Last Saturday of each month
@ 5:30 p.m.
Caribou Coffee
1924 South Minnesota Ave.
Please join us! We welcome your fresh ideas for YOUR Intergroup Website!
Any questions? E-mail us:
info@siouxfallsaa.org

Intergroup would like your input about the newsletter. What kind of information would you like to see? Please forward any ideas to bradw.oneday@yahoo.com



"...and since I've been sober in AA I've paid all my bills – except when to do would be harmful to others."

Reprinted with permission from Grapevine May, 1968

Step five: Promises

We have a whole page on promises. We can't resist repeating here what A.A. members are promised at the completion of a successful Step 5.

Once we have taken this step, withholding nothing,

1. We are delighted.
2. We can look the world in the eye.
3. We can be alone at perfect peace and ease.
4. Our fears fall from us.
5. We begin to feel the nearness of our Creator.
6. We may have had certain spiritual beliefs, but now we begin to have a spiritual experience.
7. The feeling that the drink problem has disappeared will often come strongly.
8. We feel we are on the Broad Highway, walking hand in hand with the Spirit of the Universe. "

Bill Wilson On The Fifth Tradition

From "The Language of the Heart" page 82-83

For to our kind, those who suffer alcoholism, recovery is a matter of life or death. So the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous cannot, it dare not, ever be diverted from its primary purpose.

Fortunately, for all of us, Bill knew what an undying promoter and glory seeker he was, as are most of us.

Temptations to do otherwise will come aplenty. Seeing fine works afoot in the field of alcohol, we shall be sorely tempted to loan out the name and credit of Alcoholics Anonymous to them; as a movement we shall be beset to finance and endorse other causes. Should our present success continue, people will commence to assert that AA is a brand new way of life, maybe a new religion, capable of saving the world. We shall be told it is our bounden duty to show modern society how it ought to live.

Putting aside the fact that today's modern society needs a LOT of help, it somehow feels to me that Bill had had a case of possible wishful thinking.

Oh, how very attractive these projects and ideas can be! How flattering to imagine that we might be chosen to demonstrate that olden mystic promise: "The first shall be last and the last shall be first." Fantastic, you say. Yet some of our well-wishers have begun to say such things.

Fortunately, most of us are convinced that these are perilous speculations, alluring ingredients of that new heady wine we are now being offered, each bottle marked Success!

Of this subtle vintage may we never drink too deeply. May we never forget that we live by the grace of God - on borrowed time; that anonymity is better than acclaim; that for us as a movement poverty is better than wealth.

And may we reflect with ever deepening conviction that we shall never be at our best except when we hew only to the primary spiritual aim of AA. That of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers alcoholism.

Thank you God for keeping Bill on the right track...

More about Sioux Falls Area Intergroup

The Sioux Falls Area Intergroup exists to aid the groups in the greater Sioux Falls area in their common purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

We do this by:

- Providing regular meeting schedules for AA meetings
- South Dakota.
- Financing a Help Line for anyone needing information about Alcoholics Anonymous, and contacting members to fulfill 12th step calls.
- Hosting dances and events

throughout the year

- Communicating with all AA groups through this website.
- Publishing a monthly Intergroup bulletin.

You may reach us at:
Sioux Falls Area Intergroup
PO Box 182
Sioux Falls, SD 57101-0182

**24 Hour Telephone
Help Line:
605-334-5419**

There were **58 calls**
thru 3-30

2010 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

The **2010 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous** will be held **July 1-4** in San Antonio, Texas with the theme "A Vision for You." Convention registration and housing reservations will be available September of 2009. See aa.org for more information and updates.

May Steps and Traditions

STEP FIVE:

Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

TRADITION FIVE:

Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Simplicity

Thought to Ponder . . .

Step 5 – Reversed

I admitted to no one, including God and myself, that there could possibly anything wrong with me, or my actions.

Big Book...

Lighting the Dark Past

Cling to the thought that, in God's hands, the dark past is the greatest possession you have – the key to life and happiness for others. With it you can avert death and misery for them.

Alcoholics Anonymous, page 124

AA-related 'Alconym' . . .

ISM = I, Self, Me

Sayings and Slogans:

An alcoholic who is alone is in bad company.

When your time in meetings equals your time in bar, you have a chance to recover.

Happy, joyous, and free.

I can't do it myself.

Twelve and Twelve...

Twelve Steps deflate ego. Step Five is difficult but necessary to sobriety and peace of mind. Confession is an ancient discipline. Without fearless admission of defects, few can stay sober. What do we receive from Step Five? Beginning of true kinship with man and God. Lose sense of isolation, receive forgiveness and give it; learn humility; gain honesty and realism about

ourselves. Necessity for complete honesty. Danger of rationalization. How to choose a person in whom to confide. Results are tranquility and consciousness of God. Oneness with God and man prepares us for following steps.

Twelve and Twelve, Contents - Step five, pg. 6

Better do one thing well than many badly. The life of our Fellowship depends on this principle (Tradition 5). The ability of each A.A. to identify himself with and bring recovery to the newcomer is a gift from God... passing on this gift to others is our one aim. Sobriety can't be kept unless it given away.

Twelve and Twelve, Contents - Tradition five, pg. 10