

## Conferences/Events

### Joy of Living Annual Spring Fling Hog Roast and Pot Luck

May 21, 2011  
322 Rising Road  
Champaign

4:00 Fellowship  
5:00 Food  
8:00 Speaker

Please bring a dish to share!

### Southern Illinois Area 21 Assembly

(Hosted by District 6)

**Sunday, June 5, 2011**

Shore Acres Park Building  
100 Park Blvd.  
Chillicothe, IL 61523

Registration begins at 7:30 am  
Assembly begins at 9:00 am

Registration: \$4.00  
Lunch: \$7.00 to be paid at registration

Accommodations:

*Super 8*  
615 S. 4th St.  
Chillicothe, IL 61523  
309-274-2568

*Americinn*  
9106 N. Lindbergh Dr.  
Peoria, IL 61615  
309-692-9200  
800-634-3444

For more information, contact Jeff, 309-303-7769 or  
Melissa 309-613-6632

### Hilltop Potluck and Speaker Meeting

June 4, 2011

115 W. Western Ave.  
Peoria, IL

Please bring a covered dish to share.

5:30 Doors open  
6:30 Food  
8:00 Speaker

### Central Illinois Soberfest

*Join us on the road to  
happy destiny*

Saturday, September 24, 10 am and goes all day!

#### Speakers

Burns B.	AA	Kentucky
Beth G.	AA	Ohio
Rose E.	AA	Florida
Ellie C.	AFG	

**Tickets on sale soon!!!!!!**



**The Little Book Store**  
Serving the AA Community  
515 Bonnymeade Dr.  
Champaign, IL 61821  
Phone: 217-359-3457  
Cell: 217-377-5840



Illinois Area 21

District 12

## Alcoholics Anonymous NEWSLETTER

May 2011

www.aa-eci.org

## From Your DCM

First, I would like to say that I am humbled to be elected by the Groups in District 12 as your District Committee Member and will do my very best to carry the message.

My role in District is a "member" not a chairman or president, so I do not preside over the decisions that are made at District 12 meetings (unless we have a tiebreaker in a decision where voting needs to take place). My job is to carry all the group consciences in District 12 to my quarterly Area Assembly meetings and to facilitate our discussions. (So, somewhat, I am just a servant or your messenger, carrying your message to another level of AA.)

Some of my duties, as outlined in the DCM Manual, are:

- Holding regular meeting of all GSRs in District 12 (District 12 meetings are held the 3rd Sunday of every month at 2 pm at Fellowship Circle, 718 S. Randolph, Champaign)
- Assisting the delegate (Fariba Murray, Bloomington, delp61sia21@gmail.com) obtaining group information in time to meet the deadline for appropriate AA Directories
- Keeping GSRs informed about conference activities
- Acquainting GSRs with *The AA Service Manual, Box 459*, and other AA literature
- Holding workshops on Carrying the Message of the Seventh Tradition to non-supporting AA Groups
- Holding sharing sessions on just about any service project
- And, of course, making a regular practice of talking to groups (new and old) on the responsibilities of General Service Work

As I continue to focus on what was so freely given to me, I can never forget how I got here and that my primary purpose in life today is to remain sober and to carry the message to the still-suffering alcoholic. The doors of AA must remain open as they were for me when I came into AA on my hands and knees begging for help — and for that, I am responsible.

Today, my life is full and this new responsibility I have committed to is just a part of keeping what I have today and for that I am very grateful.

As we trudge the road of happy destiny together, let us all remember to bring the message of the Groups to our meetings, not our personal opinions. We encourage suggestions but also remember that without the Groups' conscience voiced through the GSRs, there will never be a decision voted on. The AA Circle starts with the Groups!

In AA service,

John C.

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## Member News

### District 12 Officers and Committee Chairs

DCM	John C.
Alternate DCM	Melanie G.
Secretary	Kate M.
Treasurer	Whitney D.
Corrections	Jay S.
Treatment Facilities	Bill B.
Meeting List	Mona M.
Answering Service	Scott S.
Newsletter	Tammy M.
Grapevine	Andy C.
PI-CPC	Linda B.
Website	Joe P.
Archives	Ray M.

District 12 holds its meetings on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 2:00 at 718 S. Randolph.

The *District 12 Newsletter* is published monthly and is distributed to meetings and members of Alcoholics Anonymous. The newsletter publishes member news, announcements, new meetings, events, and anniversaries.

#### Future news items:

If you have information you would like printed in the newsletter, please plan to attend the next meeting of District 12 **OR** send an e-mail to [newsletter@aa-eci.org](mailto:newsletter@aa-eci.org)

#### Deadline:

The 20th of each month

## District 12 Announcements

Welcome back to the first publication of the *AA Newsletter* for District 12 in 2011. There was a lot of interest in getting this going again after the officer and committee chair changes that occurred at the beginning of the year. There was a collaboration of volunteers and finally a committee meeting was held in the middle of April. Yes, that's right, we actually have a committee. We have a wonderful group of people ready and willing to do service work. We are very excited to present this May newsletter. We will continue to toss around article ideas and hope you are enlightened and entertained by them. We will try to keep you informed of Anniversaries, Speaker Meetings, and Events in our and surrounding areas.

Remember, if you have information you want published, we can't put it in the Newsletter if we don't know about it. The new e-mail address we are using is [newsletter@aa-eci.org](mailto:newsletter@aa-eci.org) or you can call Tammy M., the new committee chair, at 217-841-4721. Please make note of the new officers and committee chairs we have listed on the left inside page. If you are interested in service work in any of the committees listed, please join us at the next District 12 Meeting on May 15, at 2 pm at Fellowship Circle, 718 S. Randolph, Champaign.

Thank you especially to the Newsletter committee members. This wouldn't be possible without you.

## From the Archives

### The Thursday Night Monticello Meeting

The Thursday night 8 pm Monticello meeting is the only meeting in Piatt County. It has weathered storms and continues to go on. The Monticello meeting was originally established in Bement, Illinois in the late 1940s and relocated to Monticello in mid-1953. The meeting was officially registered as a group in 1962. Three of the original founders were Jim J. and Gene G. of Monticello and Larry K. of Decatur; all now deceased. The Thursday night meeting is held at the Presbyterian Church and one of the early friends of A.A., Reverend Bob William, a minister at the church was so impressed with the service work done by the members of AA that when he moved to New York he became involved with GSO. About twenty years ago, the meeting almost collapsed because of poor attendance but there were a few members who

*Continued on page 3*

### *Monticello Meeting, cont'd*

did not believe that success was measured in numbers; they stayed at the church with a pot of coffee to carry the message to any alcoholic that might walk through the door.

Today the Monticello Thursday Night Group has fifteen to twenty active home group members whose primary purpose is to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers and to help others achieve sobriety. The group ensures their primary purpose by welcoming newcomers; giving rides to meetings; and new members are encouraged to begin service work immediately. The Monticello meeting is well-known by churches and doctors in the community who have sent alcoholics their way. The average meeting size is about 25-30 people and represents a cross-section of the neighboring communities with members traveling from Argenta, Bement, Champaign, Decatur, Mahomet and Urbana to attend the weekly closed discussion meeting.

If your group is interested in participating in an interview and providing history on the group and interesting information, please e-mail the Newsletter committee at [newsletter@aa-eci.org](mailto:newsletter@aa-eci.org).

As told to me by Jim A.  
By Angie B.

## Anniversaries

Congratulations to all of those celebrating a recent anniversary!

<b>Haley S.</b>	<b>April 4</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>Brian P.</b>	<b>April 19</b>	<b>1 year</b>
<b>Sherry G.</b>	<b>April 19</b>	<b>2 years</b>

If you know of any anniversaries that you would like to put in the newsletter, send an e-mail to [newsletter@aa-eci.org](mailto:newsletter@aa-eci.org). Please get the person's consent!!!

## Calendar

**Monday, May 10, 8:00 pm**  
**Cellar Dwellers Speaker Meeting**  
**Speaker:**  
First Presbyterian Church, 602 W. Green, Urbana

**Saturday, May 14, 8:00 pm**  
**As Bill Sees It Speaker Meeting**  
**Speaker: Andy C.**  
718 S. Randolph (Hall), Champaign

**Sunday, May 15, 2:00 pm**  
**District 12 Meeting**  
718 S. Randolph (Hall), Champaign

**Saturday, May 21, 6:30 pm**  
**Bottoms Up Speaker Meeting & Potluck**  
**Speakers: Stan H. (AA); Grace H. (Alanon)**  
Dinner at 5:00, Speakers at 6:30  
Serenity Shack, 117 N. Ohio St., Rantoul

**Sunday, May 22, 8:00 pm**  
**Grapevine Group**  
**Speaker:**  
Prairie Center, 122 W. Hill, Champaign

**Monday, May 23, 8:00 pm**  
**Monday Meeting**  
**Speaker: Jack H. (Rantoul)**  
40 Martyrs Fellowship Hall  
109 E. Van Allen, Tuscola

**Thursday, May 26, 8:00 pm**  
**H.O.W. Speaker Meeting**  
**Speaker: Bob (Bondville)**  
718 S. Randolph (Hall), Champaign

**Saturday, May 28, 6:00 pm**  
**Working With Others**  
**Speaker: Mark C. (Bloomington)**  
718 S. Randolph (Hall), Champaign