

Illinois Area 21

District 12



Alcoholics Anonymous

NEWSLETTER

June 2014

www.aa-eci.org/newsletter

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Newsletter Staff

EDITOR & LAYOUT Kelly A.
SPEAKER CALENDAR Sarah H.
DISTRICT NOTES Rosemary T.
EVENTS Sarah H.
DISTRIBUTION Bonnie

THE CIRCLE IS GONE, BUT SOBRIETY CONTINUES

The final meeting at "Fellowship Circle," 718 South Randolph in Champaign, was "One Lunch at a Time" at noon on May 16th, 2014, chaired by Bob S.

The first meeting at the new location, "Fellowship Corner" 1714 West Springfield in Champaign was at noon on May 17th, 2014. The "One Lunch" Traditions meeting was chaired by Creighton C., as it has been for many years.

After over a decade on Randolph, hundreds have attended meetings and functions to help them get and keep their sobriety. People from The Pavilion and Prairie Center have been introduced to AA and some have decided they wanted what they've seen, felt and witnessed at meetings at the House, Garage, and Hall.

The move has given alcoholics from around the area an opportunity to continue to share with others "How it Works" and show, by example, that the "Promises" can come true.

I feel it is District 12 members' responsibility to continue to be there for the alcoholic still suffering. With this "New Fellowship Corner," we can carry on the legacy that Bill and Bob left for us.

Gary S, DCM

District 12, Area 21 AA

GOD ON FIRE ~ THE POWER OF PRESENCE

As the hub of our Champaign-Urbana AA community settles into its new location, I wanted to share something I recently heard in a video I stumbled upon online. Rob Bell, a pastor, lecturer, and best-selling author was speaking about his early years of pastoring, and after one of his first public lectures a friend approached him and said, "Rob, you've got to go to AA." Rob, not being an alcoholic, didn't really understand this request, but at his friends urging, he began attending a few local AA open meetings at a church. What he discovered, he said, was that "it was as powerful, or maybe more powerful, than any church I've ever been to... God was *there*, in some profound way...I discovered that God was upstairs in the sanctuary, but god was on fire in the basement."

District 12 Officers and Committee Chairs

DCM	Gary S. (dcm@aa-eci.org)
Alternate DCM	Mona Lee H.
Secretary	Katrina R. (secretary@aa-eci.org)
Treasurer	Steve B. (treasurer@aa-eci.org)
Corrections	Mike K.
Treatment Facilities	Don D. & Joe M.
Meeting List	Liza W. & Mona H. (meeting-list@aa-eci.org)
Answering Service	Randy G. (answering-service@aa-eci.org)
Newsletter	VACANT (newsletter@aa-eci.org)
Grapevine	Mark G. (grapevine@aa-eci.org)
PI-CPC	Tom D. (picpc@aa-eci.org)
Website	Rosemary T. (webmaster@aa-eci.org)
Archives	Mike W.

District 12 holds its meetings on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 2pm in the Fellowship Circle Hall at 718 South Randolph, Champaign.

If you would like to submit something for publication, or just send comments or questions to the Committee, please email newsletter@aa-eci.org. Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.

There is an electricity in the air, a feeling indescribable, a palpable presence, in the rooms of AA, be they in a church basement or a warehouse on Randolph Street in Champaign. We, as people united by a common bond, cannot help but create this sensation, it is our collective consciousness, our shared joys and sorrows, the moments we have no truly appropriate words to describe. Emotional feeling has a memory. As we move our joined feelings into this new Fellowship Corner, we bring with us all that we shared in Fellowship Circle. I will remember the echo of sounds: the sound of Katie's laughter, the sound of Eugene's bellowing voice, the sound of my first sponsor's cries the day her son died. Those memories will come with me into our new meeting place. And your memories will come with you. And the power of presence will come with us all.

*Kelly A.
District 12, Area 21 Newsletter Editor*

ATTENTION: JULY NEWSLETTER EARLY RELEASE

As 2 key newsletter staff members will be out of town at the end of June, we will be sending the July newsletter to printing ahead of our normal schedule. Please submit your anniversaries, events, and articles to the newsletter no later than June 15th. Email submissions to newsletter@aa-eci.org.

BIG BOOK TRIVIA

May's question:

On page XXIX , 3rd paragraph, who "had hidden in a deserted barn determined to die?"

Answer:

John Henry Fitzhugh M. His story is in all of the editions of the big book, titled "Our Southern Friend".

June's Challenge:

On page 178, 1st paragraph, who were "The crowd of people Dr. Bob was thrown in with?"

ANNIVERSARIES

To submit an anniversary to the newsletter, please email newsletter@aa-eci.org. (Be sure to get consent!)

Suzi W.	24 years	May 13
Don B.	2 years	May 18

All anniversaries are published after they have passed in the following month's newsletter.

DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

DCM Gary S. announced that the next Area Assembly will be held June 9th in Springfield and that Alternate DCM Mona Lee H. will attend in his place.

Treasurer Steve B. reported that in April the District received \$299.20 in group disbursements and \$100 for the Correction Committee Literature Fund.

Meeting List Co-Chair Liza W. reported that she and Mona M. are preparing for a new printing of the meeting list by the end of May and asked GSRs to contact them if their group has changed meeting place, time, format, etc. so that the information on the list is accurate.

Website chair Rosemary T. reported that the new Champaign meeting location has been posted on the home page of the website, as have other meeting date and time changes resulting from the move to 1714 W. Springfield.

GSR reports:

Jim reported that a new open meeting (Round Robin format) has begun in St. Joseph on Tuesdays at 7pm at the Prince of Peace Church at 802 E. Douglas Road.

Noon Bird GSR Linda Z. reported that Noon Bird will resume on Saturday, May 24th in the basement of 1714 W. Springfield on Saturdays and Wednesdays only.

H.O.W. GSR Gary R. reported that H.O.W. Monday has changed its format to a Big Book Study and that the H.O.W. Wednesday meeting has been suspended.

New Business:

Mark G. announced that S.W.A.T. is organizing an Old Timers Meeting for the 1st Sunday in September. The group is looking for members with 30+ years for panels for the meeting. Please contact Mark or any other S.W.A.T. home group member if interested in being on a panel.

Liza W. brought up the need to designate as soon as possible a new name for the new meeting location in Champaign and its spaces. Using the same name is confusing and might result in people going to 718 S. Randolph and finding no meeting (or building) there. After discussion, it was agreed upon that the District, as the publisher of the Meeting List, had the authority to designate a name to call the meeting space on the Meeting List and Website, and did not need leave it up to the Fellowship Circle board, which had failed to decide on a new name. The District voted to call the new location Fellowship Corner and the larger room the Great Room and the smaller room the Basement.

The next District Business meeting will be Sunday, June 20, at 2pm at Fellowship Corner, Great Room.

SPEAKER MEETINGS

Sunday, June 1st, 12pm

SWAT, Speaker: Kelly A.

1714 Springfield Avenue, Champaign

Monday, June 9th, 8pm

Cellar Dwellers, Speaker: TBA

602 W. Green, Urbana

Saturday, June 14th, 8pm

As Bill Sees It, Speaker: Meghann H.

1714 Springfield Avenue, Champaign

Saturday, June 14th, 10am

Attitude of Gratitude, Speaker: TBA

2055 E. Harrison, Charleston

Wednesday, June 18th, 7:30pm

Nuts and Bolts, Speaker: TBA

Camel Club, 508 E. Fairchild, Danville

Saturday, June 21st, 6:30pm

Bottoms Up, Speaker: TBA

Serenity Shack, 117 N. Ohio Street, Rantoul

Monday, June 23rd, 8pm

Monday Meeting, Speaker: TBA

109 E. Van Allen, Tuscola

Thursday, June 26th, 7pm

HOW Group, Speaker: TBA

1714 Springfield Avenue, Champaign

Thursday, June 26th, 7pm

Our Common Journey, Speaker: TBA

Common Grounds, 1612 Charleston, Mattoon

Friday, June 27th, 8pm

Friday Night Meeting, Speaker: TBA

Madison & 7th, Charleston

Saturday, June 28th, 6pm

Working with Others, Speaker: TBA

1714 Springfield Avenue, Champaign

Saturday, June 28th, 5pm

Shoulder to Shoulder, Speaker: TBA

First Christian Church, Mattoon

Sunday, June 29th, 8pm

Grapevine Group, Speaker: TBA

Prairie Center, 122 W. Hill Street, Champaign

UPCOMING EVENTS & NOTICES

ILLINOIS AREA 21 ASSEMBLY hosted by Springfield District 19 June 8

*Ansar Shrine Center
630 South 6th Street
Springfield, IL*

Registration: 7:30am
Program: 9:00am

Costs:
Assembly \$6.00 Luncheon \$10.00

Pre-Assembly Event: Ansar Shrine Center June 7
Saturday Night: Potluck, 6:30pm
 Speaker, 7:30pm

Lodging:
Route 66 Hotel - St. Joseph & South 6th Street
217-529-6626

Please mention "SIA 21" when making reservations for
a rate of \$59.00 + tax

For additional information contact: Leo S. 217-652-8370
or Gary W 217-553-9737

SPEAKER MEETING RECORDINGS

Howard H and Sarah H welcome your assistance in
assuring your home group's monthly Speaker
Meeting is recorded!

We only record with (1) permission of the group (2)
permission of the speaker (3) recordings are edited,
and recorded to cd's to insure anonymity &
commitment to the 11th tradition

Let us know!
Contact Howard H. or Sarah H.

WWW.AA.ORG

Have YOU ever checked out the official AA website?

There are lots of interesting materials to read and
explore on the alcoholics anonymous website
[<http://www.aa.org>]

among the documents available are:

- * 'the 'daily reflections' at
<http://www.aa.org/lang/en/aareflections.cfm>
- * the entire 'big book' (4th edition) at
<http://www.aa.org/bigbookonline/>
- * the AA service Manual combined with Twelve
Concepts for World Service by Bill W. at
http://www.aa.org/pdf/products/en_bm-31.pdf

QUARTERLY SWATLUCK June 1

SWAT's 2nd Quarter Potluck and Speaker Meeting

Noon to 2:00pm, Kelly A. sharing her story, pot
luck to follow - bring a side dish to share if you
can; meat and table service provided, at
Fellowship Corner, 1714 Springfield Avenue,
Champaign

STAY INFORMED

Updating Events & Speaker Meeting Information for
District #12

--- Event & speaker meeting updates are generally
available at <http://aa-eci.org/> under Speakers and
Events

--- Email, text or call in information on upcoming events
or speakers up to the 25th of the month prior to
publication to sarahh@beewrites@ymail or 708-601-
4424 -or- send info to webmaster@aa-eci.org

AL-ANON 2014 ILLINOIS STATE AFG CONVENTION October 17-19

Planning Ahead -
Letting Go, Falling Into Recovery

For al- anon friends or family check out
[http://www.siafg.org/calendar-of-
events.html](http://www.siafg.org/calendar-of-events.html)

or call Betsy C at (217) (878-7670) or
Denise B (217) (972-4166)