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Share Your Story: You wrote in, we posted it

A.A. History: This month in AA history

SOS Funnies: Not a Glum Lot

Topic Time: Topic for next month and call for entries.

*******IMPORTANT NOTICE*******

**The Central Office is closed temporarily due to
the Central Office Managers illness.**

**Please call (317) 632-7864 to verify if they are open before
going.**

~Feature Meeting of the Month~

This meeting is a **MUST** to check out

**Not So Blue Triangle
(Daily Reflections)**

Roberts Park Church
401 North Delaware Street
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Thursday at 7:00 pm

Can't wait to see you there!

Upcoming Events

WOMEN'S STEP WORKSHOP

Starting February 3rd

Monday's 6:30-7:30

8540 US 31

Indianapolis, IN 46227

(Christ United Methodist church-corner of Stop 12 and US-31)

GROWING SPIRITUALLY TOGETHER IN THE SPIRIT OF THE PROGRAM

TREE OF SOBRIETY

14th Anniversary

March 8, 2020 @ 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Chapel Rock Christian Church

2020 N. Girls School Rd -Entrance 12

Indianapolis, IN 46214

Please bring a covered dish to share

BRING IT ALL GROUP

27TH ANNIVERSARY

Wednesday, February 12, 2020

First Baptist Church, Brewer & Main St. Greenwood

Fellowship 11:00

Food 11:30

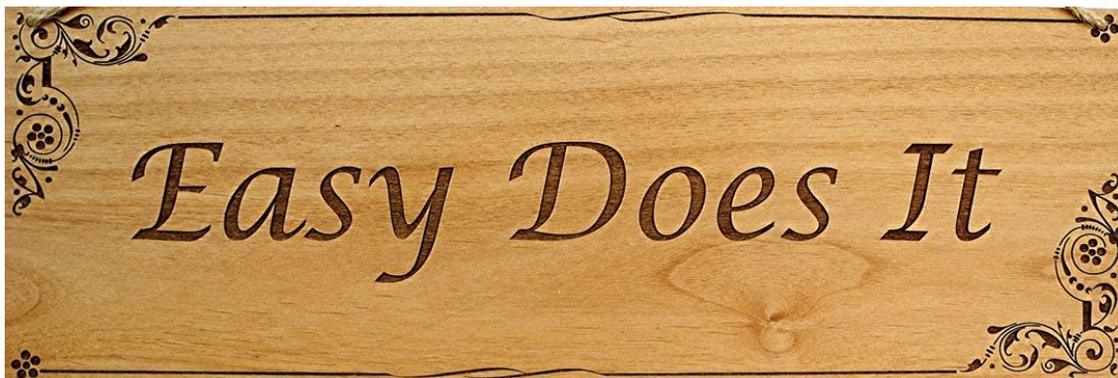
Speaker 12 Noon

Pizza, Cake and beverages provided

56th INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

February 20, 2020 @ 8:00 am – February 23, 2020 @ 5:00 pm
JW Marriott Hotel
10 South West St. Indianapolis
IN 46204

To See The Calendar Of All Upcoming Events: [Click Here](#)



What is Intergroup?

Indianapolis Intergroup consists of 12 standing committees and 1 service committee. To learn more about Indianapolis Intergroup as well as view a list of all the committees and what service they provide click on the link below.

[Indianapolis Intergroup Information](#) [Click Here](#)

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Quarterly Committee Meeting

March 7, 2020

UAW Hall or Party Barn

2320 S. Tibbs Ave.

Indianapolis, IN 46241

Looking for service work?

Telephone Answering Service:

Open shifts

- 4th Friday 4:30-11PM
- 4th Thursday 4:30-11PM
- 2nd Sunday 6-11PM

SOS Sheets of Sobriety Newsletter:

- **Stories**
 - Jokes
- Artwork/drawings/doodles

Intergroup Volunteers in Central Office

Call 317-632-7864 if you can help

District and Area Meeting Schedule

DISTRICT 34

February 1, 2020 @ 9:00 am

Southport United Methodist Church

1947 E Southport Rd

Indianapolis, IN 46227

DISTRICT 20

February 3, 2020 @ 7:00pm

Avon United Methodis Church

6850 E. US Hwy 36

Avon, IN 46123

INDIANAPOLIS INTERGROUP SUNDAY

February 9, 2020 @ 9:30 am-10:30 am

UAW 933

2320 S. Tibbs Ave.

Indianapolis, IN 46241

DISTRICT 36 A/B

February 10, 2020 @ 7:00 pm

Paragon Restaurant

118 S. Girls School Road

Indianapolis, IN 46214

DISTRICT 26

February 11, 2020 @ 6:30 pm

Allisonville Friends Church

7701 Allisonville Road

Indianapolis, IN 46250

DISTRICT 24

February 11, 2020 @ 6:45 pm

Carvel Club

4627 Carvel Avenue

Indianapolis, IN 46205

DISTRICT 30

February 23, 2020 @ 1:00 pm

Club East

441 S Ritter Ave.

Indianapolis, IN 46219

DISTRICT 22

February 27, 2020 @ 7:30 pm

Orchard Park Presbyterian Church

1605 East 106th Street

Indianapolis, IN 46280





"Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity."

The Big Book infers that a vital spiritual experience is necessary for alcoholics to face and be rid of the obsession to drink. (p. 27) Yet, paradoxically, we are told that belief in God was not necessary to accomplish this miracle—we need only become willing to believe. (p. 46) Indeed, I found that it wasn't necessary to define God before doing the Twelve Steps, but I began to see the result of my willingness to believe several months afterward. I experienced a release from that deadly mental obsession that had plagued me for nearly thirty years! My willingness to believe came before doing the Twelve Steps, but my belief came afterwards. The evidence was indisputable—I had been released! I had experienced a "*personality change sufficient to recover from alcoholism.*" I had been in AA for about a year before the release took place (The Big Book uses the word *recovered*), so in AA Program language I had *had* a spiritual awakening (slow) rather than a spiritual experience (sudden) as mentioned in Appendix II. (p. 567)

The Big Book does *not* say that I must understand God, but it speaks

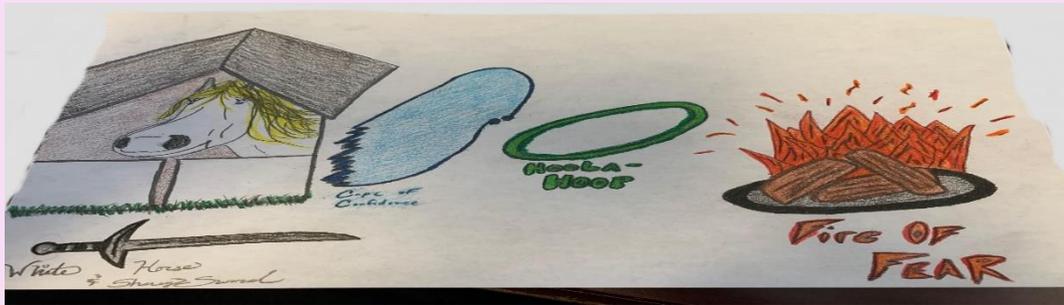
of: *"God as we understood Him,"* in Steps 3 and 11. This simply means that we each may entertain our different views of a higher power. Although I may not understand God, I can see His results, i.e.: We have over two million sober alcoholics in AA and most all of us claim that God saved them from an alcoholic pit. (Including me!)

Reverend Sam Shoemaker, Bill Wilson's Oxford Group mentor, stated: *"Step two is not theological, it is evidential."* The evidence is around the AA tables!

As I study the Big Book, I realize that certain words are used in a special and technical context not to be found in dictionaries. One of these words is "sanity." Sanity, in Big Book speak, is when an alcoholic can see and act on the truth in the matter of drink. Alcoholic insanity is when they cannot. Two examples: Alcoholic insanity: Jim pouring whisky into milk: *"plain insanity"* (p. 37) Alcoholic Sanity: Fitz Mayo who *"couldn't drink even if he would."* (p. 57)

Someone wrote: *"The better I understand God, the less I know God."* Came to believe is a *decision of the heart*, rather than of a *conclusion of the mind."*

Submitted By: Bob S



Submitted Anonymously

SOMETHING TO BELIEVE IN

"Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity." That is what Step 2 of the twelve steps tells us. I look back and realize that when I first got sober, I did not have such a belief. It was something that took time to for me to develop. I was truly at bottom, and did not really harbor any beliefs, except I knew I could not go on living like I was. I relied heavily on the people I met in the fellowship at first, listening to the experiences, strength and hope that they shared during the meetings. That was enough to keep me coming back, and to start believing that these people did know something I didn't. Something I needed in my life. It wasn't until after finding a sponsor, and working through the steps one by one, that the belief in a higher power began to take root. I began to understand what my higher power was capable of, and could see changes materialize as time went on. It was an awakening to a new belief, a new outlook on life and a new way of doing things. As time went by this belief grew stronger and stronger, to the point that now, I have no doubt at all that my higher power is helping me to do all the things I can't do on my own. And for that I will always be extremely grateful.

Submitted By: Todd C

HISTORICAL DATES IN A.A. HISTORY

Significant February Dates in A.A. History

- 1937 - First New Jersey meeting was held at the home of Hank P ("The Unbeliever" in the first edition)
- 1938 - Rockefeller gives \$5,000 to AA. - Saves AA from professionalization.
- 1939 - Dr Harry Tiebout is 1st Psychiatrist to endorse AA and use in his practice.
- 1940 - First organization meeting of Philadelphia AA was held at McCready Huston's room at 2209 Delancy Street.
- 1940 - 1st AA clubhouse opens at 334-1/2 West 24th Street, NYC.
- 1941 - Baltimore Sunday Sun reported that the city's first AA group, begun in June 1940, had grown from 3 to 40 members.
- 1942 - Ruth Hock, AA's 1st paid secretary, resigns to get married.
- 1943 - During gas rationing in WWII, AA's are granted the right to use cars for 12th step work in emergency cases.
- 1959 - AA granted "Recording for the Blind" permission to tape the Big Book.
- 1971 - AA groups worldwide hold memorial service for Bill W.
- 1981 - 1st issue of "Markings" AA Archives Newsletter is published.

Notable Deaths

- Feb 19, 1967 - Father "John Doe" (Ralph P), 1st Catholic Priest in AA dies.
 - Feb 9, 2002 - Sue Smith Windows, Dr Bob's daughter died.(She had been active with AA for most of her life on a national and local level.)
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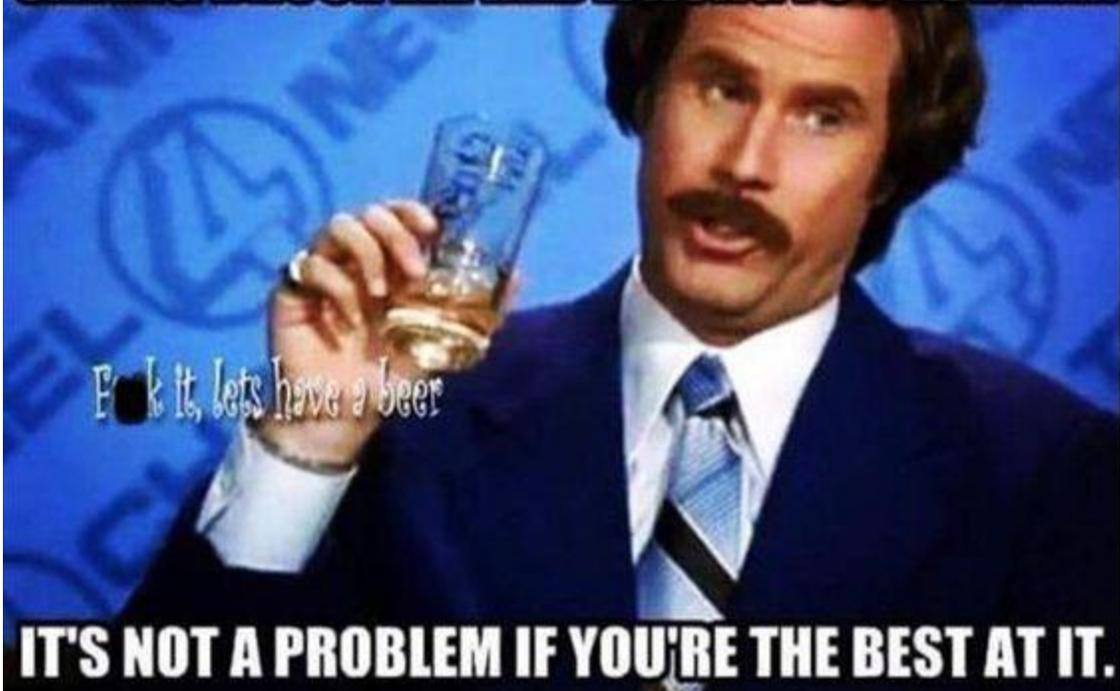
*God, grant me the serenity to
accept the things I cannot
change, the courage to change
the things I can, and a
SPONSOR
who knows the difference.*

**I DONT ALWAYS TAKE
INVENTORY, BUT WHEN I DO**



ITS GONNA BE YOURS

**SAYING I HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM IS LIKE
SAYING BRUCE LEE HAD A KUNG FU PROBLEM.**



IT'S NOT A PROBLEM IF YOU'RE THE BEST AT IT.

WARNING

When you drink Vodka over ice, it can give you kidney failure.

When you drink Rum over ice, it can give you liver failure.

When you drink Whisky over ice, it can give you heart problems.

When you drink Gin over ice, it can give you brain problems.

Apparently, ice is really bad for you;

warn all your friends!!!



Doctor: “I am not exactly sure of the cause. I think it could be due to alcohol.”

Patient: “That’s OK. I will come back when you



are sober.”

MARCH TOPIC SUGGESTION

"TURN IT OVER"

Step 3."Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him."

Share your Experience, Strength, and Hope regarding STEP 3 for the March Edition of S.O.S.

****Submissions are not limited to the suggested topic and we encourage you to write about any topic as it relates to Alcoholism for any month.****

Submissions for March Edition are due by February 25th. Any submissions received after February 25th will be included in the April Edition.

Please submit to sos@indyaa.org and title your email "Newsletter Submission".

Please keep all submission around 700 words or less.

Include a title for your submission where applicable. If no title is included, we may provide one for you.

If you wish to be published anonymously, DO NOT include your name in your document and please write "post anonymously" in your email submission to SOS.

If you wish for your name or initials to be published, please write it at the end of your submitted document exactly as you would like it published. If no indication of intent has been made, your submission will automatically be posted anonymously.

Please note, only first names, first name and last initial, or initials only, will ever be published. We will never post last names even if you submit them.

We look forward to hearing from you!

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