

THE PAPER III

A publication of Indianapolis Intergroup

In 2012, I resolve:

*to use my ears more than my mouth;
to remember I was once that sullen newcomer with a
card to sign;
to return phone calls;
to ponder rather than obsess;
to recognize that others may have a different H.P. and
respect that;
to not talk more than 3 minutes in meetings;
to be grateful that I can remember what I said and did
yesterday;
to let God be God;
to serve in any capacity as humbly as possible;
to extend a welcoming hand to the person coming back;
to marvel at the sun rise and the white glow of the
moon;
to grieve, accept and adjust, and then move on when
saddened;
to continue to do the tenth step, lest today's mistakes
continue into tomorrow;
to do the next right thing, even when it involves
stepping out of my comfort zone;
to ask for help. I didn't get this far on my own;
to be open minded--we can disagree without being
disagreeable;
and to never forget that God's grace and AA have saved
my life.*

Anonymous

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www.indyaa.org (Intergroup)

Thank you for the February articles from new contributors to The Paper III. If you didn't see yours in this issue, look for the March issue.

Mary H.
editor

Meet My Sponsor

Sponsorship has always been important to me. I had only two weeks in treatment when I was told to get my first sponsor... Today, my sponsor is a kind and loving woman who holds nothing back. She moved here three years ago. She walked into my home group a little scared and uncertain of her own future. She was not quite sure what God had planned for her here.

She moved here to be close to her family. In the last three years I have been privileged to get to know and love her family as if they were my own. We have shared holidays. We have shared hard times and good times.... Don't get me wrong, this does not happen with every sponsor, this is the story of my sponsor.

We have had the opportunity to be in a Twelve Step workshop together for the past three years. I am constantly amazed at how she can retain and expound on the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous... She was a school teacher for twenty four years and still teaches all of us today. She often teases us about putting on her schoolteacher voice. She talks about how the Twelve Steps have changed her life. She shares with us that we must live in the Steps every day and that she does not do it perfectly. She uses examples of her day-to-day interactions to share her experience, strength and hope of how God has transformed her life and brought her to where she is today.

When we are working through the Steps or just sharing our lives together on a daily basis she is not arrogant or condescending. She really listens and tells me of her life experiences. I never feel chastised. She is great about using humor to lighten a heavy situation when I am so good about beating up on myself. I love the sound of her laughter. I love her.

I did not like women when I first sobered up. To me, all women were like me. They could not be trusted. I was the type of woman that would take your money, jewelry, your man and anything else of significance to you. I had to earn trust and loyalty. I had an assignment early in sobriety to call three women a day and not to talk about myself. It was really hard, but I did it and learned to talk to other women. I was also forced to get a friend about that same time who was beautiful inside and out. She taught me how to dress, talk, walk the talk and be a woman. I am forever grateful... My first sponsor taught me little by little to clean up my language and to act like a lady. Because of those early days, I can appreciate the relationships I have with women today.

You may ask how do you get a sponsor like mine. You take a leap of faith and watch the woman who is working a good program. Does she talk about her relationship with a Higher Power? Does she talk about the Steps and Traditions in her own life? Is she surrounded by other sober women? Does she wear a smile? Is she going to meetings?

I told you that my sponsor was uncertain of her future when she first moved here. She is not concerned anymore. Her days are filled with family and her new found A.A. family. She has women calling her daily. She makes time to meet with her sponsees to work the Twelve Steps in their lives. She works the Steps with her sponsor. She is practicing the Program in her life every day. She is a wonderful example of a truly sober woman in A.A. I am eternally grateful to have her as my guide and as my friend. I thank God for her every day.

Mary O.

Special Events 2012

February 3rd and 4th

AA Meeting in the Archives Room

Friday and Saturday Evening At 7 pm

Intergroup will Host an Open Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous in the Archives Room
Indianapolis Intergroup, 136 E Market St., Suite 1030, Indianapolis, In 46204

February 4, Saturday.

St. Timothy's Big Book 34th Anniversary Celebration

6 pm Fellowship @ 7 pm, Pitch-In Dinner @ 8 pm, Speaker Meeting

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 2601 E Thompson Rd., Indianapolis, IN

February 11, Saturday.

District 34 A/B Chili Supper

6 pm Fellowship, 6:30 pm Food, 8 pm Presentation

Rosedale Hills United Methodist Church, 4450 South Keystone Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46224

February 12, Sunday 10-1 pm

Public Information Workshop

All Southern Indiana Public Information Committees are presenting this Workshop to Share Ideas and give members another opportunity to be of service in our AA communities.

Club East, 441 S. Ritter Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46219

February 14, Tuesday 12 - 1 pm

Lunch with Bill W. 3rd Anniversary

Indiana Government Center South, 302 W. Washington St., Room 130

Bring a Dessert or side dish

February 25, Saturday 1-4 pm

GSR School

Hosted by District 10 And Area 23

12/24 Club, 1412 W. 11th Street, Bloomington, In 47404

More Special Events

February 26, Sunday, 1 to 4 pm

6th Annual Tree of Sobriety

Invites you and your sponsee(s) to come join us in the celebration of the original women in sobriety.

Chapel Rock Christian Church, 2020 N Girl School Road, Entrance 12, Indianapolis, IN 46214

February 26, Sunday, 6:30 PM

Greenwood Sunday Night Group 45th Anniversary

Fellowship at 6:30 pm, Dinner at 7 pm (bring a covered dish), Speaker at 8 pm (Joe McM.)
Greenwood Presbyterian Church, 102 W. Main St., Greenwood, IN

February 29, Wednesday, 11:30 am

Bring It All Group 19th Anniversary

Fellowship at 11:30 am, Speaker at Noon

Vineyard Christian Church, 512 S Madison Ave., Greenwood, IN

March 16th- 18th

Alcoholics Anonymous 59th Indiana State Convention

Holiday Inn, Columbus, IN

For more information, please

contact: Michalene R. (812-340-1335), Mary O. (317-787-2507), or Dave

F. (317-520-1156) or email: IndianaStateConvention@yahoo.com

For more information on these and other events, see the Intergroup Web site at www.indyaa.org/events/october.htm

The Telephone Answering Service (TAS) is in need of volunteers. In December 2011, TAS volunteers handled 75 after-hour calls to Central Office. For more information or to volunteer, contact Marty P. at 506-4886 or email indytas@gmail.com. Include your full name and phone number.



Become a Faithful Fiver

Remember wasting more than \$5 drinking? Why not contribute \$5 to carry the message?

Faithful Fivers are A. A. members who donate \$5 or more per month to help support Indianapolis Intergroup.

Become a Faithful Fiver. Your contribution will help carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous

Indianapolis Intergroup Faithful Fiver Form Date _____

YES, I want to help continue to carry our life-saving message of hope.

I will contribute: __Annually (\$60) __Quarterly (\$15) __Monthly (\$5)

Please send email reminder to this email address:

Enclosed is my contribution of \$_____ for _____Months

Name_____

Address_____

City, State,
Zip_____

Phone
number_____

Please make check payable to: Indianapolis Intergroup
136 E. Market Street, # 1030
Indianapolis, IN 46204 (317) 632-7864

When we meet and defeat the temptation to take large gifts we are only being prudent. But when we are generous with the hat, we give a token that we are grateful for our blessing and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with all those who still suffer.

Language of the Heart----Bill W.

February Birthdays

Birthday Club Members: Kathy W. (3), Grant P. (4), Pat C. (6), Kathy M. (7), Terri M. (10), Kaye P. (17), Jo G. (19), Larry N. (20), Alice U. (22), Carole M. (26), Ray F. (28), Howard S. (36), Carillon & Glenn M. (38), Bernie B. (40)

Aaron W. (4), Lisa H. (7), Kevin S. (8), Miles F. (8), Terri P. (10), Sherry B. (10), Danny R. (13), Darlene M. (15), Kaye P. (17), Katrina H. (20), Alice U. (22), Peggy G. (24), Carol B. (27), Sandra D. (32), John K. (44)



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