

District 42 & YOU

DISTRICT 42 NEWS

3RD QUARTER 2015, AUGUST

DISTRICT OFFICERS

District Committee Member	Paul M.
Secretary	Coni Y.
Treasurer	Terri Z.
Special Needs Chair	Jane G.
Grapevine Representative	Scott B.
Webmaster	Hal S.
Newsletter Editors	Paul M. and Coni Y.

UPCOMING EVENTS

8/11	District 42 Meeting 7:00 p.m. St. Paul's Lutheran Church 1370 Defense Highway Gambrills
8/22	Area Assembly Severna Park Methodist Church 731 Benfield Road Severna Park MD 21146
9/8	District 42 Meeting 7:00 p.m. St. Paul's Lutheran Church 1370 Defense Highway Gambrills
10/10	Workshop 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Increase Your Spirituality Through Steps 6 and 7 Community United Methodist Church Rt. 424 at Reidel Road, Crofton

A Member of A.A.

Paul M. District 42 DCM

At closed meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous is it necessary to introduce yourself with a name and that you are an alcoholic?

When asked, A.A. members provided a variety of answers to this question. Most of the answers were divided into two major categories.

Yes, at closed meetings, you must announce yourself as an alcoholic either when sharing or during introductions. The second category was the emphatic response of "No." A person was not required to state a name or that they are an alcoholic at any A.A. meetings.

Tradition Three

"The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking."

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On Tradition Three, Bill Wilson addressed every serious drinker when he wrote "You are an A.A. member if *you* say so. You can declare yourself in; nobody can keep you out."¹ Bill Wilson added, "We were resolved to admit nobody to A.A. but that hypothetical class of people we termed 'pure alcoholics.'"² From pamphlet 16, A.A. Group³, it states "We may use last names within our group. At the same time, we respect the right of other members to maintain their own anonymity however they wish, and as closely as they wish."

¹ Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 139 with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

² Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 139 with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

³ Reprinted from, The A.A. Group ...Where it all begins How a group functions How to get started p. 9, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

CONTRIBUTIONS

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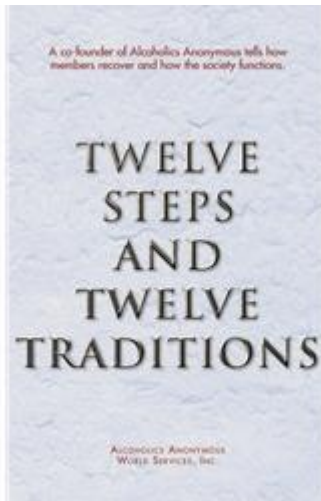
WEBSITE

<http://www.mdaadistrict42.org/>

SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES OR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Email to newsletter@mdaadistrict42.org
Mail to
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BOOK CORNER



“A.A.’s Twelve Steps are a group of principles, spiritual in their nature, which, if practiced as a way of life, can expel the obsession to drink and enable the sufferer to become happily and usefully whole. A.A.’s Twelve Traditions apply to the life of Fellowship itself. They outline the means by which A.A. maintains its unity and relates itself to the world about it, the way it lives and grows.”

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So what is the answer? Many A.A. members prefer stating that they are an alcoholic as a reminder or as an affirmation of their true self.

However, if a person has a desire to stop drinking, at any A.A. meetings, it appears proper to merely state, if anything, “I am a member of Alcohol Anonymous.” Adding a name is optional, too.

Rotation Time

Paul M. District 42 DCM

There is an old saying in A.A. The two quickest ways to clear an A.A. meeting is to announce a tradition meeting or a group conscience is going to be held. Many A.A. members react to service opportunities like they are about to touch a hot stove. They quickly draw back. Service as trusted servants is a way to give back to A.A.

Service is the third legacy of A.A while Recovery and Unity are the First and Second legacies. In pamphlet 18, “Inside A.A.,” it states, “Service . . . reminds us that we owe our sobriety to the work of earlier members, and that our continued sobriety may depend on the hundreds of thousands who still need to learn of A.A. Their participation may well be part of our future.”¹ Besides, most A.A. members find that service work is an enjoyable experience.

1 Reprinted from, The A.A. Group ...Where it all begins How a group functions How to get started p. 28, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

Tradition Twelve

“Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.”

Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 13 with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

The principle of rotation is to spread service opportunities among A.A. members. Our anonymity in A.A. is a reminder that trusted servants do not seek prestige, only a chance to give back what was so freely given. “In the spirit of Tradition Twelve, service reminds ever remind us ‘to place principles before personalities.’”

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Generally, elections for service positions are held every two years. Service positions are available within A.A. groups, Districts, and at a state level. Currently, nominations for service positions are being sought for District 42 and with Maryland General Service (Area 29). To learn more about available service positions ask your sponsor or visit the following websites.

Maryland General Service (Area 29) <http://www.marylandaa.org>
District 42: <http://www.mdaadistrict42.org/>