



Conscious Contact

Information and Inspiration from District 10, NIA

The Religious View on A.A.

Vol. 19, No. 10

October 2020

- Next District Meeting Sunday, October 25th 6PM Zoom
- Submit content for the next issue no later than October 15th

Any member of AA may contribute content for this newsletter. Page 4 includes information on how to submit content for publication.

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“I am responsible . . .

When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that:

I am responsible.”

Northern Illinois Area 20
District 10, P. O. Box 854
Libertyville, IL 60048

www.district10nia.org
www.aa-nia.org
www.aa.org
www.aagrapevine.org
Answering Service
847-362-1811

Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the thinking of Alcoholics Anonymous, NIA, District 10 or other Conscious Contact volunteers.

Clergymen of practically every denomination have given A.A. their blessing.

Edward Dowling, S.J., of the Queen’s Work staff, says, “Alcoholics Anonymous is natural; it is natural at the point where nature comes closest to the supernatural, namely in humiliations and in consequent humility. There is something spiritual about an art museum or a symphony, and the Catholic Church approves of our use of them. There is something spiritual about A.A. too, and Catholic participation in it almost invariably results in poor Catholics becoming better Catholics.

The Episcopal magazine, *The Living Church*, observes editorially: “The basis of the technique of Alcoholics Anonymous is the truly Christian principle that a man cannot help himself except by helping others. The A.A. plan is described by the members themselves as

“self-insurance.” This self-insurance has resulted in the restoration of physical, mental and spiritual health and self-respect to hundreds of men and women who would be hopelessly down and out without its unique but effective therapy.”

Speaking at a dinner given by John D. Rockefeller Jr. to introduce Alcoholics Anonymous to some of his friends, Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick remarked:

“I think that psychologically speaking there is a point of advantage in the approach that is being made in this movement that cannot be duplicated. I suspect that if it is wisely handled—and it seems to be in wise and prudent hands—there are doors of opportunity ahead of this project that may surpass our capacities to imagine.”

Page 572 Alcoholics Anonymous

“And we have ceased fighting anything or anyone even alcohol.. For by this time sanity will have returned. We will seldom be interested in liquor. If tempted we recoil from it as from a hot flame. Alcoholics Anonymous, page 84

AAGRAPEVINE
The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous

<https://grapevine.espstores.com/subscriptions>



[Online meetings](#)



Step Ten

“Continued to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.”

Tradition Ten

“Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.”

OCTOBER 2020 | MONEY AND SOBRIETY

Dear Grapevine October 2020

Welcome all “visitors”

Last night, I attended a virtual AA meeting here in New York City during the lockdown. The speaker was a woman celebrating one year of sobriety after having 20 years sober and then a 14-year relapse. She spoke eloquently about how complacency and resentments took her out and about that moment of grace when her son and her employer showed up at her door pleading for her to go into rehab. She did, and, as she put it, “I fell in love with AA all over again.” Beautiful. The shares that followed were about resentments and how deadly they can be.

Then a woman named Ruby, who was “visiting” our virtual meeting from far away, shared. She recalled the time when she was new to AA and got so angry because the speaker didn’t call on her. Afterward, she went up to say something, but before she could get there, an old-timer stopped her. In a beautiful, raspy alcoholic’s voice, the old-timer told Ruby, “This is AA, dear. We save lives here. You’re lucky you got on that train of sobriety when it came to your station. Now stay on it. If you go out over a resentment, that train might not come again for a very long

time. And even if it does, it may not stop at your station.”

Ruby stayed sober and now has over 30 years. She loves to share that story, and I am so grateful she does. I’m so glad she dropped in to “visit” our meeting that night. Resentments are still the number one offender and this 38-year sober guy needs to hear that every single day. Gotta love these virtual meetings!

Kim A.
New York, N.Y.



Touchdown

One beautiful Sunday fall morning in my early recovery, I wanted to reward myself for uh...acting like an adult for an entire week. So I purchased a last-minute ticket to a pro football game.

At the stadium I found myself surrounded by a crowd of drunks. It was so toxic, I wanted to leave. I immediately prayed to my Higher Power. I said, “I’m sorry, this was stupid.”

All of a sudden, a guy sat down next to me. I didn’t say hello because I was brooding, but I noticed that he put

a bottle of water in his cup holder. “Hey,” I said, “73,000 people and I sit next to the only other person in this section drinking water!” The guy gave me a smile from ear to ear and asked, “Are you a friend of Bill’s?” We both laughed and talked and had a great time. My friend was from out of town and had bought a solo ticket at the last minute. I guess our Higher Power knew what we both needed that day.

When I took the train home that night, I realized that my Higher

Power has a keen interest in my character, not my comfort, and if I ask for help with humility, he can do things for me that I cannot do for myself. Or should I say, in spite of myself. “God could and would if he were sought.”

Robert W.
Marshall, N.C.

Events

October 24th, 2020 9am –4:30 PM	Virtual Big Book Conference Sponsored by District 10 and 12	Via Zoom, Link will post on the district website calendar. https://district10nia.org/calendar/
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THE GLUM LOT

- ◇ All the problems fade before a hangover
- ◇ A doctor tells a woman she can no longer touch anything alcoholic. So she gets a divorce.
- ◇ Alcohol doesn't make you fat... it makes you Lean..... on tables, chairs & random people.
- ◇ A girl working with her sponsor asked "Where can I read about my sex problems?" Sponsor said, "That's covered on page 69." Later at home the page number got jumbled as she tried to remember and she turned to page 96 for her sex problems.
"Do not be discouraged if your prospect does not respond at once. Search out another alcoholic and try again. You are sure to find someone desperate enough to accept with eagerness what you offer. We find it a waste of time to keep chasing a man who cannot or will not work with you."

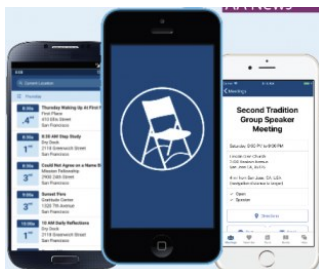
Answering Service August 24, 2020 – September 21, 2020		Chair: Victoria H.	Alternate: OPEN
Total Calls	34	Meeting Info	12
Spanish	0	General Info	3
Solicitor	1	12-Step	1
Hang-up	8	Wrong Number	3
Will call back	0	Other Districts	2
Virtual Meetings	0	Website	0
		Treatment Facility Info	0
		Halfway House Info	0
		Al-Anon	0
		Misc	4



Meeting Guide free mobile app

A free mobile app for iOS and Android. Designed to be simple, fast, and help you find AA meetings wherever you are.

[Meeting Guide 3.0](#) is provided by A.A.W.S. to help people find AA meetings and resources near them. It's Free!



How to Submit Content to the *Conscious Contact* newsletter

1. Go to <http://district10nia.org/>
2. Hover over the “District Services and Committees” menu, and then click on the “Newsletter” submenu
3. Provide your name and either a phone number or email so that we can contact you if we have questions. Then type

District 10: PO Box 854, Libertyville, IL 60048**Northern Illinois Area:** Northern Illinois Area Ltd., PO Box 808, Streamwood, IL 60107**General Service Office:** PO Box 459 Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163**District 10 answering service:** 847-362-1811**2020-21 District 10 Officers (Confidential—this information is for A. A. use only)**

Every member of AA is welcome at District 10 meetings—

Zoom main meeting room, Meeting ID: 985 2630 5107, Password: DISTRICT10

The next District 10 meeting will be on August 23, 2020. For more details, go to www.district10nia.org.

If the word, “OPEN,” appears after a District position, we are looking for someone to volunteer to serve. Learn more about each position and the volunteer commitment at an upcoming District meeting, or by contacting a District committee member.

Position	Chair	Phone	Email	Alternate	Phone	Email
DCM	Kevin A.			Michael L.		
Secretary	Tom K.			Mary M.		
Treasurer	Janet J.			Jeff B.		
Accessibilities	Rachel B.			David H.		
Answering Service	Victoria H.			Mike D.		
Archives	Peter S.			Jeremy L.		
Bridging the Gap	Cori S.			Carl S.		
Corrections	Mark H.			Larry L.		
C.P.C.	Terri G.			OPEN		
Directory	Nathan C.			Sherry H.		
Events	Brandon B.			Amy F.		
Grapevine	Judd H.			OPEN		
GSR Contact	Earl N.			Kimberly K.		
Literature	Shayna L.			OPEN		
Newsletter	Alex E.			Tad L.		
Public Info.	Bernadette L.			Christina B.		
Treatment	Tony P.			Christina H.		
Website	Dana T.			OPEN		