Please take one if you would like



THE MESSENGER

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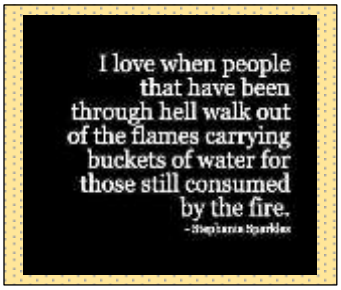
An A.A. © Newsletter for District 2

Serving Hillsdale, Jackson, and Lenawee Counties



SERVICE: STILL NOT SURE? STILL NOT WILLING? YET WANTING TO GROW SPIRITUALLY?

STEP UP to take a service position, whether in your Home Group, District 2 or Area 32. Nominations and elections are in process in many rooms now. Here are some excerpts from https://www.aagrapevine.org/magazine

…For some unexplained reason, the word service is not well received in our Fellowship… I became aware that the people who were active in serving the Fellowship were the very people I thought of when I heard the words "If you want what we have. . ." Service to God and my fellows is the reason I am given sobriety, and there is *no other reason*. If I fail to serve, my purpose in life will be unfulfilled, and no doubt life itself will be taken away. *JUNE 1979 Service Is the Reason BY: M. C. | WINNIPEG, MANITOBA*

…I reached a point where I personally felt the need to help alcoholics in ways other than in my group. Participating as a group member helped me, and I was able to sponsor people. But unsung committee members in service were helping people they would never meet. This seemed fine lesson in the true meaning of humility; with only an occasional exception, they did not seem like big shots at all…Being of service, in any capacity, is my guarantee to a spirituality that works. It's a way of inviting God into my life. It isn't always easy. Sometimes I just don't want to! But I find, as with many things, it takes practice. *MARCH 1979 Spirit of Service BY: E. S. | MANHATTAN, NEW YORK*

…I am convinced that getting involved, early and often, in sobriety really helps ensure your continued success in in this program. *MARCH 2009Secret service BY: MIKE P. | EL CAJON, CALIFORNIA*



Tradition 11

Short form

Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.

Long form

Our relations with the general public should be characterized by personal anonymity. We think A.A. ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our names and pictures as A.A. members ought not be broadcast, filmed, or publicly printed. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.

All of us trusted servants will rotate from the jobs we are doing, and other people will come in to take our places. One door closes and another one always opens if we are spiritually on track, keeping our recovery programs strong and practicing the principles of love and service in all our affairs in Alcoholics Anonymous. Rotation is a catalyst for personal growth, a chance to learn again to surrender, with grace, to the wishes of our Fellowship. It symbolizes our Twelfth Tradition's reminder to always place principles before personalities, thus ensuring that the circles of love and service in Alcoholics Anonymous are ever widening. *DECEMBER 1999 Rotation: A Step Forward in Growth BY: DIANE O. | CUPERTINO, CALIFORNIA*

I have had the joy to generate *The Messenger* these past 4 years. Are you someone who would like the opportunity to bring your energy and resourcefulness to the newsletter? The Messenger is not a District 2 position; I volunteered when Mac stepped away from his many years as editor.

Call me! 248-602-6291 or email moira.detroit@gmail.com

SMF-131 Traditions Checklist from aagrapevine.org

1. Do I sometimes promote AA so fanatically that I might make it seem unattractive?
2. Am I always careful to keep the confidences shared with me as an AA member?
3. Am I careful about throwing AA members' names around—even within the Fellowship?
4. Am I ashamed of being a recovered, or recovering alcoholic?
5. What would AA be like if we were not guided by the ideas in Tradition Eleven? Where would I be?
6. Am I careful not to identify myself or others as members of AA when I post certain things on social media?
7. Is my AA sobriety attractive enough that a sick drunk would want such a quality for himself?
8. If my group has its own website, have we considered this Tradition when we designed it, how accessible it is, and the type of content that it offers?

A.A.'s RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.