

THE 23 INFORMER

PA Area 60, District 23 P.O. Box 1698 Greensburg, PA 15601

www.aa-swestpa-dist23.org

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

DCM REPORT

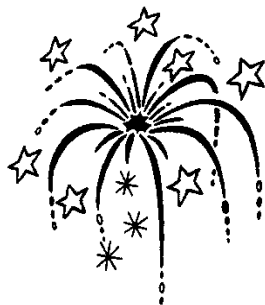
To my fellow AA's:

Hello once again. First off I would like to thank all those who attended the Day of Sharing on June 6; I hope all had as good of a time as I did. I would like to give a special thanks to all of the presenters - every one of you did an awesome job!

Next, there will be a post-conference Assembly on July 12 at the Comfort Inn in Penn Hills. Just a reminder for those of you who went to the Getaway Weekend: Your committees will meet again and discuss what the conference committees decided to do with your specific agenda items from the committee that you were on at the Getaway. If anyone needs a ride or directions, *please* come to see me at the end of the business meeting tonight. It would be wonderful to see some new faces attend this Assembly and support their district and Area 60.

Finally, I hope that every one had a safe and blessed holiday.

*Love and Service,
DCM Chris G.
Alt. DCM Tom W.*



ANSWERING SERVICE

Please mail contributions to: Answering Service - District 23, PO Box 1698, Greensburg, PA 15601. Please make them payable to "Answering Service, District 23" and put your group name on any checks.

TO ALL HOME GROUPS - If your group has any changes, please contact the Editor, and it will be listed in the Informer. Also please notify Richard K. of any changes so that the Answering Service and PI/CPC will give out correct meeting information. Contact numbers are on the front of this newsletter.

Please note that the Answering Service phone number has changed! We now have a toll-free number, thanks to your generous contributions. The number is listed on the front page of this newsletter. Pass it on!

GRAPEVINE

The AA Grapevine, our monthly meeting in print, is a very useful tool for your sobriety and can go wherever you go. The magazine is delivered every month in a plain wrapper, so if your neighbors don't already know you're an alcoholic, your Grapevine magazine won't tip them off!

The Grapevine is a perfect gift for sponsees and friends in the program. You can see me or your home group's Grapevine representative for subscription forms and pricing, which may have changed. Thank you!

*Stan K.,
Grapevine Rep.*

PI/CPC

Hello District 23! PI/CPC is making strides toward its goal of informing the public of AA's commitment to helping the still-suffering alcoholic in jails, institutions and elsewhere.

We have made contact with the Southwestern Pennsylvania Human Services (SPHS), and are giving out literature as well as trying to set a program to go in and speak to groups informally.

PI/CPC continues its work by dropping off literature to doctors and several attorneys' offices.

*Richard K. ,
PI/CPC Rep.,
and Leo H.*

ANNOUNCEMENT

District 23 is in search of a new Webmaster. This is a two-year volunteer position. The Web site is already built; the responsibility of the Webmaster is to keep District 23 information on the Web site up-to-date. A potential Webmaster needs only to have basic computer skills to take this position. The current Webmaster will provide step-by-step written instructions with screen prints for updating the site. Please contact your GSR if you are interested in assisting with this service.

GROUP INFO

The Irwin Back to Basics Group which meets Thursday nights at 7:30 pm at the First Presbyterian Church on Main Street in Irwin, PA, will not be having a meeting on July 16 due to church activities.

Irwin Back to Basics will also be celebrating their anniversary on Thursday, July 30. Coffee and dessert will be at 6:30 pm, and a speaker at 7:30 pm. Desserts and snacks are welcomed and appreciated.

Did you know ...

Alcoholics Anonymous held its first International Convention at Cleveland in 1950. Dr. Bob made his last appearance there and noted the necessity of keeping AA simple. The Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous were adopted there to be permanently used in the AA fellowship.

Incidentally, the 2010 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous is exactly one year away! The convention will be held July 1-4 in San Antonio, Texas, with the theme "A Vision for You." AA will celebrate its 75th year at this convention.

More information about the convention is available on the Alcoholics Anonymous World Services Web site at www.aa.org. Your home group's GSR can also provide you with information about the International Convention, including phone numbers and contact information.

HOME GROUP HISTORY

Irwin Back to Basics Group

“Whenever a society or civilization perishes, there is always one condition present,” writes Carl Sandburg, “they forgot where they came from.” My prayer is that they never can say that about District 23. I have learned through working the steps that prayer is not enough. We must also take action. Therefore, I am asking you to join Mary and myself in archives work. Together we can do what I can’t do alone. We can preserve the past to build on the present so as to help shape the future of our district. Everyone can do his/her part. We can start by helping write the history of our home groups – Jay L.

The Irwin Back to Basics Group began on July 21, 1994. I have heard of meetings that have begun with a resentment and a coffee pot; fortunately, that was not the case with this meeting.

I was standing watching our small parade on Memorial Day of 1994 when an AA friend came over to say hello. The conversation came around to how nice it would be to have a small discussion meeting during the week in Irwin, early enough to accommodate people’s school and work schedules. The idea became action as Mary Dee S. and Tom M. began to spread the word and seek out a meeting place. Rev. Larry Dunster of the First Presbyterian Church was open to the concept, and suddenly the meeting had found a home.

Beginning with a small borrowed coffee pot, a “New Group” kit from the New York Central Office and five or six interested members of AA, the meeting began to grow and take shape. At the first group conscience, it was decided that the format would be to read a few pages of AA’s “Big Book” every week and discuss what was read. That format has not changed to this day.

The first trusted servants were Mary Dee S., secretary; Tom M., treasurer; and Joe N. as GSR. The first money accumulated went to buy a group coffee pot and some literature. Today, enough Big Books have been acquired (thanks in part to a gift of books from Bob McC.) to supply anyone at the meeting who doesn’t have their own.

The first group anniversary was celebrated on July 20, 1995, with desserts and beverages. The group has grown and thrived and as of 2001, had 30 home group members – but we always welcome more!