

# **THE 23 INFORMER**

## **MAY 2015– ISSUE #206**



PA AREA 60, District 23

P.O. Box 1698 Greensburg, PA 15601

[www.aa-swestpa-dist23.org](http://www.aa-swestpa-dist23.org)

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**Toll-Free 24-Hour Hotline: 866-851-8459**

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## DCM REPORT

Greeting District 23 AA's!

As we wrap up the first quarter of 2015, I think we can all agree that the District 23 has been very busy!

This month was the H&I Old-timer's Speaker Meeting on April 25th, at St. Michael's Orthodox Church. For myself, I found the event very spiritual. The lead speakers all expressed so much humility and so much for gratitude for their sobriety and for AA as a whole. It was again my honor and privilege to attend such an awe inspiring event.

On a lighter note, the food, as always in District 23 was fabulous, and the hall was filled to overflowing. We had a great turnout, not only from our district, but we had visitors from Butler, Washington and Allegheny counties. (There may have been folks from other areas too; I just may not have met them.) It is always great to network with AA's from other districts, and learn "How It Works," for them.

I was able to get a little visiting in this month, and realized that I had neglected to mention that I had visited the Wednesday Night Open Discussion meeting in Greensburg earlier this year. In April, I was able to visit both the Scottdale New and Old Timers Meeting and the KISS Group Women's Open Discussion. It is wonderful to get out and see old friends, and meet new ones. I really enjoy visiting all the groups.

Don't forget that this month on May 17th the Area 60 second quarterly meeting will take place at the Comfort Inn on Rodi Road in Penn Hills. I will of course be attending, and urge all GSR's and coordinators to attend. Registration is at 8:30 a.m., there is a workshop at 9 a.m., and the meeting starts at 10:15 a.m. If anyone would like to carpool or needs a ride, please feel free to contact me. If you want to learn the business side of AA, this is the place!

Have a Merry, Merry, Month of May!

In love and service,

Margie S.

DCM

## PI/CPC REPORT

Hello District 23!

I am happy to be sober and to be of service in our local area. I thought it might be a good idea to explain exactly what it is that the Public Information/Cooperation with Professional Communities Committee does. These are some of the ways we make contact with these entities.

Our committee sometimes gets referrals from the Answering Service Committee. Members of the public or professional people who deal with alcoholics in their practice will often call the hotline number looking for information or literature from AA. We are then brought in to make personal contact with the caller.

Sometimes we will contact law offices, magistrates' offices, police stations, doctors' offices, libraries, etc. unsolicited and bring AA literature appropriate to the situation if the staff members are agreeable.

We are also at your disposal, AA members of District 23. If you know of a place that is interested in learning more about Alcoholics Anonymous such as your PCP, work place, clergy, community health fair, just let us know.

Love and Service,

Lisa V.

## H & I REPORT

Dear AA friends,

Great Job to the H & I committee and volunteers for all of your hard work with the H & I Old Timers Spaghetti dinner. Thank you for your service and thanks to all who attended. It was a success as there were more than 120 people in attendance.

The H & I committee can always use volunteers so if you are interested ask an H & I committee member or myself for more information. The H & I meeting is held the second Saturday of the month in Youngwood at the Church on Sherwood and Lincoln. Anyone can attend. Please feel free to come and check it out.

H & I will be hosting the Annual picnic in August. More information to come in the following months.

Thanks,  
Bernie S.  
724-858-9022  
H&I chairperson



# COMMUNICATION—USING THE TOOLS THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO US

Margie S., DCM

Since our inception, AA has relied on technology. In the beginning, members used the telephone, in some sense maybe more so than a lot of other people. It was, and still is, our life-line to other drunks. When we are in a jam and feel like we need a drink, don't our sponsors always tell us to pick up the phone?

As time has gone on, we have come to have more communication tools at our disposal. The internet burst forth for most people in this century, and with the advent of smart phones there are very few people who don't have access to the worldwide web.

Several years ago in District 23 we agreed to spend money on a website. These are your dollars at work, but what concerns me, is that our website is underutilized by our members, nor am I sure that we are availing ourselves of the other websites available to us, including GSO, the Pittsburgh Area Central Office and Area 60.

In reviewing effective ways to communicate with other AA's, I realized that perhaps all the groups and members do not know what communication tools are available to them. With that in mind, I am going to list some of the communication tools that are available to all AA's, and when and how they can and should be used. I'm also going to challenge all the District Committees, home groups and members to use these wonderful tools whenever possible and appropriate.

## 1. Newsletters

**A. The 23 Informer**--Group anniversary, picnics, meeting changes and district events should go into the 23 Informer. Articles and personal stories (sharing your experience, strength and hope) can also be submitted. Submissions should be sent to: Monica at [editor@aa-swestpa-dist23.org](mailto:editor@aa-swestpa-dist23.org). Submissions must be received the Monday before the GSR meeting.

**B. The Pittsburgh Central Office Newsletter**-- Group anniversary, picnics, meeting changes and district events should go into the Central Office Newsletter. Submissions may be either emailed to: [pghareaoff@aol.com](mailto:pghareaoff@aol.com) or members can call 412-471-7472. Submissions or announcements for the Pittsburgh Central Office Newsletter must be received by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**1. Why the Pittsburgh Newsletter?**—We serve the members of AA as a whole. Even though as groups or individual we may not travel outside our area, many newcomers do! We encourage newcomers to attend events, so it is our responsibility to publish them when we can.

**C. Area 60 Seeds of Service**-- Articles and personal stories (sharing your experience, strength and hope) can be submitted to Barb at [newsletter@wpaarea60.org](mailto:newsletter@wpaarea60.org). Please see either a print or online edition of Seeds of Service for submission guidelines.

## 2. Websites

**A. District 23**: <http://www.aa-swestpa-dist23.org/> —Email temporary and permanent meeting changes and events to the webmaster at [webmaster@aa-swestpa-dist23.org](mailto:webmaster@aa-swestpa-dist23.org).\* (This can be very important if your meeting is closed for church functions or needs to be moved for a single week—it can be listed on the website for all to see.)

**B. Pittsburgh Area Central Office**: <http://www.pghaa.org/> —Email permanent meeting changes to [pghareaoff@aol.com](mailto:pghareaoff@aol.com). The meeting list is updated weekly.\* Group anniversaries, picnics or events can be emailed or called in for the website at the same time that you are requesting to be put in the Newsletter.

**C. Area 60 Website**: [website@wpaarea60.org](mailto:website@wpaarea60.org) – Group or district events can be emailed to [web site@wpaarea60.org](mailto:website@wpaarea60.org), as well as permanent meeting changes.\*

I look forward to improving our communication in the district as I am sure you do too!

\*New meetings should not submit for submission in any meeting list, either on-line or in print, until they have been operating for 90 days.



# INFORMATION/SAVE THE DATES

## **IMPORTANT ADDRESSES**

### **For Home groups mailing contributions:**

#### **District 23**

PO Box 1698

Greensburg, PA 15601

For contributions to the district, please make checks payable to District 23 and put the group name on check.

#### **Area 60 Treasurer**

PO Box 266,

Monroeville, PA 15146.

(Make check payable to "Area 60 Treasurer.")

#### **General Service Office (GSO)**

P.O. Box 459

New York, NY 10163

(Make check payable to "AA World Services, Inc.")

#### **District 23 Answering Svc**

PO Box 1698

Greensburg, PA 15601

Please make checks payable to Answering Svc and put your group name on check

## **TO ALL HOME GROUPS:**

If you wish to see your group's anniversary or other special event listed, please submit to the Editor no later than the first Monday of the month to have it appear in that month's Informer. My contact info is on the front of the newsletter.

([editor@aa-swestpa-dist23.org](mailto:editor@aa-swestpa-dist23.org))

Also, if your group has any changes, please contact the Editor, and it will be listed in the Informer.

*\*\*\*Do you have a story or an experience that you would like to share? We would love to read it. Send it to the editor. It may be anonymous....if you wish.....XO*

## **K.I.S.S. ANNIVERSARY SPEAKER MEETING**

St. Michael's Orthodox Church  
(off cedar St. Exit RT. 30)

THURSDAY MAY 7TH  
6:30 FELLOWHIP, COFFEE,  
SNACKS  
7:30 SPEAKER

**\*\*\*ALL ARE WELCOME\*\*\***

## **2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous**

**July 2-5, 2015 - Atlanta,  
Georgia**

The 2015



**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:  
MAY 12, 2015**