



## Service Work for AA—Trips to Akron

I took my first trip to Akron in the spring of 2002. My last drink was February 21, 2002. During that trip, I was able to feel the AA history at the Mayflower Hotel—the gate house (where Bill and Bob met in May 1935) and Dr. Bob’s house in 1950 (where five families lived after Bob’s passing). St. Thomas hospital and Dr. Bob and Anne’s gravesite are still original. In 2005, we took our first bus trip (approximately 40 people). When we arrived at Dr. Bob’s house, a lady, Jody, shouted, “Where is it?” She was looking for the Cleveland Stadium not a small house in a neighborhood. We had a good laugh and took the tour.

Between that and the next bus trip, there were several smaller groups that went, ranging from two to fifteen people. Rick H. was the voice of the first trip and was a wonderful guide. On the next bus trip, he was the voice again, but this time he had cancer and was very ill (He wanted to do the job and, even ill, was great. He wore a big fur coat and died shortly after). On this trip, a newcomer was tired, and when we got to the Mayflower, he said the building was too old, so he stayed on the bus. When we took the third bus trip, Leslie S. was the voice, and she added good directions and was brilliant (We did not know about GPS). Since then, many current members have made the trip for the first time. I was surprised to find that many old timers have never been to Akron. Some things worth noting include Jim B. getting his 30 year token at Dr. Bob’s house and Mike Z. doing a first step at the very room Bill and Bob used in 1935. Jim S. prayed and cried at the chapel in St. Thomas hospital. Dana S. has been very helpful in taking several trips with both newcomers and old timers alike. We always hold hands at the Mayflower and say the Lord’s Prayer together. Some of the most fun times were experience by individuals from Akron. At the elevator in the Mayflower, a lady with a beer in her hand said she would be the Mayflower guide on Founder’s day weekend and that she would not drink that day. On the first trip, we missed the exit and went to Columbus, causing a two-hour delay.

A short story about the foundation—on our last bus trip, I made all the arrangements for the trip but failed to check that Dr. Bob’s house was available until one week before the trip, and the house happened to be closed for structural repair. I asked if we could walk around the outside, and when they heard our problem, they called the Akron volunteers who ended up spending two days getting the house ready, making us the first group to visit after the remodel. We are planning a trip for spring of 2018. If you have ever been a short bus window licker, you might want to take the next trip with us.

~Mike B

**Bus Trip to Dr. Bob’s** Akron, OH Sunday May 20, 2018 (Limited to first 55 Paid)

\$60 per Person Includes bus fare, tips and entry to tour sites.

Stops include- Mayflower Hotel, Mansion Gatehouse, Dr. Bob’s Home, Hospital, Chapel and Dr. Bob’s Grave.

Leaving at 7 A.M. from Lima Rd. Meijer

Returning Approximately 9 P.M.

Call Central Office for more information: 260-471-4262



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## Prayers for Steps Five and Six

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### Fifth Step Prayer

God, please remove my fear and help me to be completely honest in what I am about to do. Please give me the courage, faith and strength I need to share with this person my whole truth, especially the things I swore I'd take with me to the grave. Amen

Big Book Pg. 73

### Sixth Step Prayer

God, thank You for removing my fear and for showing me the truth about myself. I need Your help to become willing to let go of the things in me which continue to block me off from You. Please grant me Your grace and remove these objectionable characteristics, defects and shortcomings from me. Amen

Big Book Pg. 76

YOU WON'T KNOW UNTIL YOU LET GO.



## *New Beginnings...Steps 5&6*

### Step 5

**Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.**

In step four we admitted the exact nature of our wrongs, the process of clearing away the wreckage of the past will not be completed until we have shared those wrongs with another person in step five. Including a well-chosen person to be part of this healing process helps us to become aware of our own self-delusion, where we have not been totally honest and where there are patterns of destructive thoughts and behaviors.

Sometimes painful but always rewarding, the incredible emotional and mental relief you will feel (coupled with profound personal insight) makes the fifth step a valuable exercise. Successful completion of step five marks a return to sanity, and a much clearer recognition of who and what we are.

### Step 6

**Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.**

Alcoholics Anonymous twelve step program of recovery is all about the removal of what doesn't work in our lives anymore. Since you have completed step four and step five you surely have plenty of things that were revealed to you about what you need to get rid of!

So now it's time to allow a Higher Power to cut out these attitudes, beliefs and behaviors at the source. You get top partner up with your Higher Power and make a firm decision to let go of the character defects and flaws that have been ruling your life and seem to have you hell bent on self-destruction.

The sixth step can bring about significant and very noticeable change when it comes to the thought patterns and behaviors that have been with us for a long time. It doesn't happen over-night obviously, there is nothing like perfection when working the twelve steps of A.A.. It's about making a commitment and being content with patient improvement

~Denise E.

**The Amethyst Statement of Purpose:** The Amethyst is published every two months for members of the A.A. community in the Fort Wayne area. The Amethyst is financially supported by contributions to Fort Wayne Area Intergroup. The purpose of The Amethyst is to share information and experience in recovery, unity and service within the Fort Wayne area. The articles published in The Amethyst are not intended to be statements of A.A. policy nor does publication of any article imply endorsement by either Fort Wayne Area Intergroup, Inc. or A.A. as a whole.



## MAN CAVE

Welcome to ~~MAN CAVE~~, the section primarily targeting things that keep men from focusing on more productive issues. In the interest of not being sexist we also welcome women seeking a break from productivity to visit and share.

This edition addresses the months of May and June, but first let's close the issue of **March Madness**. The winning bracket was submitted by **Tom R.** When asked "How'd You Do It?" Tom replied "*I asked help from my Higher Power; I called my bookie.*"

### THE INDIANAPOLIS 500

**The 2018 Indianapolis 500** is a Verizon IndyCar Series event that is scheduled for Sunday, **May 27, 2018**, at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in Speedway, Indiana. All members of the NO LEFT TURN GROUP are protesting this race.

### THE TRIPLE CROWN

**The Kentucky Derby**, is a horse race that is held annually in Louisville, Kentucky, United States, on the first Saturday in **May**, this year the 5<sup>th</sup>, capping the two-week-long Kentucky Derby Festival.

**The Preakness Stakes** is an American flat thoroughbred horse race held on the third Saturday in **May** each year at Pimlico Race Course in Baltimore, Maryland.

**The Belmont Stakes** is an American Grade I stakes Thoroughbred horse race held every **June**, this year the 9<sup>th</sup>, at Belmont Park in Elmont, New York.

AAFW will have a contest among our fellowship for **THE TRIPLE CROWN**, and you don't have to run. Pick the horses to finish 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> in each race and submit your picks to the AA Book Store and Intergroup Office at 2118 Inwood Drive, *if you need an excuse to drop by*, and submit no later than the morning of each race. You may also email your picks to the office. See their website for details. Winners will be published in next Amethyst edition along with an interview with the winning horses.

### CONVENTION GOLF

The winners of this year's local AA golf tournament accompanying our convention are Eric R., Bruce S., Denny and Gabe. In spite of the distance they drove to play, they did not win the longest drive award- that was won by Terry G. Women's Longest Drive was won by Taryn W. Closest to the Pin was won by Scott M.

~Lou D

## Events & Notes

### Cancelled:

**Look and Live Group** Speaker Meeting at Abundant Life Church 3301 Coliseum Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN. Thursday at 1:30 P.M.

### May 12, 2018

#### 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Central Indiana Mini-Conference

**Living in the Solution** \$15.00 per attendee, includes dinner. Doors open at 9:00 P.M.

Christian Congregation Church, 11015 North 300 East Alexandria, IN. Various speakers

For more info email [lineman2114@yahoo.com](mailto:lineman2114@yahoo.com)

### May 18th-20th, 2018

#### Indiana 43rd Annual Al-Anon Convention *Gifts of*

**Recovery** Courtyard Marriott Layfayette, IN

More details to be announced.

### May 18th-20th, 2018

#### Area 22 Service Weekend *A Solution For All Gen-*

**erations** Camp Alexander Mack 1113 E. Camp Mack Rd. Milford, IN

### May 19, 2018

#### Limberlost Group- Celebrating 50 Years

Lunch at noon- Speaker at 2:00 P.M.

Meat and drinks provided. Please bring a covered dish.

First Methodist Church Decatur, IN.

### New Meeting

#### The Lighthouse Group.

Tuesday's at 7:30 P.M.

St. Vincent's Spiritual Center/Rectory, Door 4, Room G  
E. Wallen Road & Auburn Road

### June 22-24, 2018

#### 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Motorcycle AA Convention

Winnebago County Fairgrounds 500 West First Main  
St. Peconica, IL

Visit at: [www.MMAAC.org](http://www.MMAAC.org)

## Anniversaries

### May

Jeff M. 5/1/94

Margot L. 5/1/02

Stephanie J. 5/1/90

Bob S. 5/4/17

John F. 5/5/13

Judy C. 5/9/13

Bruce M. 5/10/16

Terry R. 5/14/00

Paula C. 5/20/13

Susan L. 5/21/14

Paul E. 5/23/90

### May

Phill H. 5/26/78

Brent W. 5/27/17

Derrick R. 5/29/15

Pat M. 5/29/00

### June

Linda H. 6/2/86

Scott L. 6/2/16

John B. 6/3/95

John S. 6/3/85

Peter G. 6/9/91

Katie T. 6/10/09

Bob B. 6/11/12

Gary C. 6/11/15

Sara P. 6/11/06

Bill F. 6/12/86

Scott H. 6/12/88

Matt H. 6/15/15

### June

Greg K. 6/16/17

Stan T. 6/16/17

Jack O. 6/17/95

Pam H. 6/17/06

Cory G. 6/18/17

Mike H. 6/19/16

Greg K. 6/21/17

Owen S. 6/21/85

Bernie G. 6/23/84

Taylor N. 6/28/15

Ann Marie 6/30/86

### *The Amethyst*

**SUBMISSIONS:** The Amethyst welcomes feature articles, supporting articles, group histories, anniversaries, jokes, cartoons and upcoming events as long as they relate to A.A. experience and reflect an awareness of A.A.'s singleness of purpose. Submissions are reviewed by The Amethyst committee and recommended to the editor for publication.

**Length of submission:** The Amethyst will publish work of different lengths, from feature articles to one-liners.

#### Send submissions to:

[editor.amethyst@gmail.com](mailto:editor.amethyst@gmail.com) or:

The Amethyst

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