



## LET'S GO...TO THE CONVENTION !!!

It's that time of year again- April 27-29, 2018. The theme this year is: **Serenity of Purpose...Opportunity for Service**. What could that be? For me, it means giving back, sharing my journey from that last drink until today. My original purpose was to get through the day without a drink. To do what I needed to do. I didn't really care about others like me trying to get/stay sober. Today I, along with many others do have and enjoy sobriety and serenity with a purpose. To go to meetings and share with others how we quit and how we learned with the help of the **12 Steps** to maintain and live sober. Others before me kept coming to share with me and I can do no less. There will be several speakers who will share why and how they came to live sober with a purpose, I hope you're there to listen, and perhaps, hear something that makes you want to stay sober. **Opportunity for Service**. Ain't it great? So many things to do. So many people needed just to help with the convention. How about those other 362 days? Making coffee, setting up before meetings, cleaning up after, Intergroup rep, GSR, DCM, carrying the AA phone a few days a year, going to Central Office to pick up books, literature and of course those great flyers to let our groups know about new meetings and events going on in The Fort and surrounding areas. Sponsoring is also a good thing. Not ready to sponsor? Bridging the Gap is a great way to help new people without sponsoring. How about writing to a lonely alcoholic in prison? There are men and women writing to New York from prison asking, perhaps hoping, for an AA pen pal. Forms are available at Central Office. So the opportunities for service, to give back, to show gratitude for what you were given are there. *It's knocking...answer the door!*

Dori D.

**APRIL, 27,28 & 29, 2018**

**GRAND WAYNE CONVENTION CENTER, 120 W. JEFFERSON BLVD., FORT WAYNE, IN 46802**

### Schedule of Events

#### Friday, April 27

9:30 am Golf Outing

5:00 pm Registration

7:00 pm Audrey W. - Dallas, TX (AA)

9:00 pm Juli M. - Kennesaw, GA (AA)

#### Sunday, April 29

10:30 am Jeff G. - Dallas, TX (AA)

#### Saturday, April 28

9:00 am Glenn G. - Dallas, TX (AA)

10:30 am Robbin R. - Chicago, IL (AA)

1:30 pm Corrie L. - Wetumpka, AL (AFG)

3:00 pm Kent L. - Wetumpka, AL (AA)

4:30 pm Open Panel Discussion (1 hr.)

**6:30 pm 75th Annual Banquet**

8:00 pm Deb H. - Akron, OH (AA)

10:00 pm Dance/Social

**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.



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## Prayers for Steps Three and Four

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### ~Third Step Prayer~

(Page 63 – A. A. Big Book)

God,

I offer myself to Thee

To build with me and to do with me as Thou wilt.

Relieve me of the bondage of self, that I may better do

Thy will. Take away my difficulties, that victory over them may bear

witness to those I would help of Thy Power, Thy

Love and

Thy Way of life, May I do Thy will always!

### ~Fourth Step Prayer~

Dear God,

It is I who have made my life a mess.

I have done it, but I cannot undo it.

My mistakes are mine, and I will begin a searching and fearless moral inventory.

I will write down my wrongs,

but I will also include that which is good.

I pray for the strength to complete the task.



## New Beginnings...Steps 3&4

Our Editor, Teresa L. cheerfully reminded us in her January/ February column she calls New Beginnings that: *The 12-Step Program of Alcohol Anonymous, and the "Big Book" are vital for all who hope to have continuous recovery and live happy, joyous, and free. It is not easy, but it is doable for those who can find and work with a sponsor, attend AA meetings, and read from our Big Book. Yes, that includes the Preface, the Foreword (four of them) and the Doctor's Opinion.*

Teresa is gracefully allowing me to take a crack at her New Beginnings theme, and I will take us back to some basics with brief comments on Steps Three and Four. I would add to Teresa's list the gentle reminder that listening to the speakers and meeting new AA friends at the Fort Wayne AA Conference on April 27, 28, and 29, 2018 are also opportunities to strengthen your continued sobriety. Let's now add to Teresa's theme of accumulating 12 Step tools for our Survival Tool Box.

**Step 3: Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.** The beginning Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous are building blocks, and the Third Step specifically raises the specter, stating that when we ask for help and turn our lives over to the care of a Higher Power, our surrender will allow us to sustain an alcohol free life. We express gratitude for this Spiritual interaction that allows us to be sober and to remove the physical obsession with alcohol. We trust that this higher power is in charge, not us. Genuinely accepting this and practicing acceptance makes all the difference. What a burden off our mortal shoulders as we travel the road of happy destiny.

**Step 4: Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.** Steps Four through Nine are turning point steps. One should work the Steps with a sponsor in the order given in the text of Alcoholics Anonymous (fondly called the "Big Book"). Each Step is built upon the prior, much as one would construct a house. Steps Four and Five are twin steps. In Step Four, we determine what we need to change. Just like with a successful business, we take inventory and determine which damaged goods need to be taken off the shelves. Working with our sponsor, we uncover our strengths and understand our weaknesses. For many, this is very hard as we must accept the effects our drinking caused.

All of the work one does in Step Four readies us for Step Five, in which we identify our character defects. We hope you look forward to that in the next edition of *New Beginnings* in the *Amethyst*.

Jim B.



## Man Cave

Welcome to the inaugural edition of **MAN CAVE**. While this section is 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 March and April and the main events that will keep us from such things as doing repairs around the house or reviewing Step 4.

### March Madness:

This year the tournament will begin March 13th with final invitations and ceding going out shortly prior. For a list of where and when games will be held, visit the following site: <http://www.ncaa.org/championships/future-division-i-mens-basketball-championship-sites>.

We invite all to complete a bracket available on plenty of media sites or available at the AA Book Store and Intergroup Office at 2118 Inwood Drive. Please submit no later than March 12<sup>th</sup>. The contestant with the highest score will be revealed in the next **MAN CAVE** edition along with their response to “**How did you do it?**”

### The Masters:

For all the golfers out there, this is Mecca, Valhalla and The Holy of Holies rolled into one.

The 2018 Masters Tournament will be the 82nd edition of the Masters Tournament and the first of golf's four major championships to be held in 2018. It is scheduled for April 5–8 at Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Georgia.

We learned that Mark E. declined an invitation to play when he heard they served alcohol at Augusta National.

### Fort Wayne AA Golf Tournament:

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeast Indiana Convention Golf Outing is set for Friday, April 27, 2018. Location: Brookwood Golf Course. Registration: 8:30AM. Tee-off: 9:30AM Cost: \$35.00 Per Person. Format: 4 man scramble. Contact the Intergroup Office for more information.

We learned that John D. declined an invitation to play when he heard they **weren't** serving alcohol.

Lou D.

## Anniversaries

### March

Jim S. 3/6 /77  
 Bob R. 3/7/96  
 James M. 3/7/05  
 Steve H. 3/17/87  
 Jim W. 3/19/91  
 Bob G. 3/5/11  
 Tom R. 3/12/16  
 Scott V. 3/14/17  
 Kyle B. 3/31/16

### April

James L. 4/1/78  
 Karrie S. 4/1/10  
 Tom D. 4/6/79  
 Bob H. 4/8/89  
 Ben M. 4/10/80  
 Leslie S. 4/10/10  
 Dave W. 4/12/89  
 Pat M. 4/15/79  
 Tammy W. 4/17/89  
 Joel N. 4/18/05  
 Bob K. 4/24/04  
 Matt C. 4/25/09  
 Steven D. 4/28/06  
 Gene F. 4/30/00  
 Corine H. 4/4/17

### **NOT YOUR USUAL DEVEILED EGGS!!**

*(in memory of Leon H.)*

10 to 12 eggs – hardboiled, cooled & peeled  
 (Heat water to boiling 1 – 2 min. and cover – turn off heat & let sit 11 minutes – rinse under cool water, Drain & peel eggs.)

Spoon out yolks and mash.

Add Hellman's or Miracle Whip – ¼ cup plus more for desired consistency.

Add 1 tsp yellow mustard.

1 tbsp minced onion

1 tbsp minced celery.

1 tbsp chopped parsley – optional salt & pepper to taste.

1 tsp Emeril Essence for a BAM – kicked-up taste.

Fill egg halves with the above yolk mix, chill & enjoy.

The family loves this special recipe!!

By Jean H.

## Drinking problem?

**There is a solution.**

**Alcoholics Anonymous**

**(260)471-6262**

## Events & Notes

### March 1, 2018

Open Discussion AA Meeting at "THE ROCK" Church located at 6638 St. Joe Road. Fort Wayne, IN. Every Thursday at 5:30 pm.

### March 15, 2018

"Look and Live Group". Speaker Meeting at Abundant Life Church 3301 Coliseum Blvd. Fort Wayne, IN. Every Thursday at 1:30 pm.

### March 15, 2018

Cuban Sandwich Night  
5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fellowship Meal  
St. Henry's Church Gymnasium  
2929 E. Paulding Rd. Ft. Wayne, IN  
Bring a Dish to Pass

### March 10, 2018

Peru Singleness of Purpose Group Hosts:  
The Area 22 Archives Committee  
Presentation of AA History  
10 am to 2 pm  
Doors Open at 9 am – Lunch will be Served  
Hotdog Bar Extravaganza

### Mar 27, 2018

35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Turtle Town AA & AL-ANON  
Carry In - Dual Speaker meeting  
United Methodist Church, Highway 33, Churubusco  
Doors open at 5:30. Dinner at 6:30 Speakers at 7:30  
Don & Sue G – AL-ANON/AA Speakers  
Meat and drinks provided. Please bring a covered dish and your own dinnerware.

### 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 PM.  
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 19, 2018

**Celebrating 50 Years.** Limberlost Group.  
Lunch at noon – speaker at 2:00 PM. Meat and drinks provided. Please bring a covered dish.  
First Methodist Church, Decatur, IN.

## 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:

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Current and past issues of *The Amethyst* can be downloaded from Fort Wayne Area Intergroup website:  
[www.aaftwayne.org](http://www.aaftwayne.org)