

June 2021

# THE CONNECTION

Connecting the Barrington and Lake Zurich A.A. community with news, stories and articles of hope and inspiration



Visit [www.barringtonaa.org](http://www.barringtonaa.org) – For information about local meetings and AA assistance or contacts call our 24/7 answering service - 847-382-4455

## Grateful For Lessons Learned – By Kevin F

**S**o I come humbly back to A.A.

In search of a better way

My past tells me the answer is here

I often ask why it took three decades to become so clear?

I will follow these easy set of directions

Then God will make all the corrections

This beautiful life of recovery

Why do I have thoughts of resistance of discovery?

Today I'm convinced of some simple ABC's

Remembering painful lessons in order to see

You told me that it was His grace and mercy that brought me here

For that reason I give God all the cheer

Thankful for God, A.A. and the 12 step solution

Working them, and finding Him has brought me absolution

Written by Kevin F.

Stillwater's Noon meeting Monday - Friday

**Want to support GSO? Please see this website to make contributions:**

<https://contribution.aa.org/>

**Don't forget to support Northern Illinois Area 20 (NIA 20)! For more information, please visit the NIA 20 website:**

<https://aa-nia.org/>

*“You told me that it was His grace and mercy that brought me here”*

## ***Looking for a Saturday night speaker meeting via Zoom?***

District 28 is hosting a Saturday night speaker meeting the *third Saturday* of every month at 6:00 p.m.

This meeting is looking for a Zoom moderator, greeter, and chair.

[The next meeting is on Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.](#)

## LOOKING FOR DISTRICT 28 NEWSLETTER CONTENT

### **HAVE A STORY, LESSON, OR BIT OF GRATITUDE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?**

WRITE AN ARTICLE AND SUBMIT IT TO THE CONNECTION! WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

PLEASE EMAIL YOUR ARTICLES TO THE NEWSLETTER CHAIR, SARAH R., VIA EMAIL AT [SERACINE85@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SERACINE85@GMAIL.COM), OR THE ALTERNATE NEWSLETTER CHAIR, SEAN C., VIA EMAIL AT [SEANCASSIDY95@GMAIL.COM](mailto:SEANCASSIDY95@GMAIL.COM).

USE SUBJECT LINE *CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER* SO IT DOES NOT GET LOST.

## Roomers vs. Zoomers? – By Cindy G.

I remember feeling absolutely terrified in late March of 2020. The world as I knew it seemed to be coming to an end, and that included my AA world. The local Alano clubs, churches and other facilities were closing their doors, and medical experts were telling me to avoid contact with anyone but those in my household. I was not sure I would survive, much less be able to maintain my sobriety.

Thanks to the resilience and commitment of AA members around the world, the option of Zoom meetings quickly blossomed. It was a blessing to be able to continue to attend meetings in a safe way for me. I also got to re-establish connections with AA friends who had moved away by attending online meetings with them and make new relationships with AA's far and wide. I feel my program has been enlarged and enriched over the last year despite all of the challenges endured.

*"I pray that we can all practice patience, love and tolerance of our fellow AA members, regardless of where our meetings took place over the last year."*



So here I am, just over a year later, and once again I feel apprehensive. Now that I feel safe to begin attending meetings in person again, I'm scared. Will the people who've been attending in person meetings throughout welcome me back? Will I be looked at as an intruder? Will people roll their eyes, or make fun of me if I continue to wear a mask? I know these fears stem from my inner need to be accepted, to belong. AA has always been the one place where I felt at home; where I felt "a part of" from the very beginning. I found my tribe when I stepped through the doors of AA. I also know that change is inevitable, and the AA meetings I walk back into will not be exactly the same as those I stopped attending over a year ago.

Today I have faith that AA will adhere to its Tradition of welcoming anyone who has a desire to stop (or continue to refrain from) drinking. Yes, there will be a period of adjustment both for myself and for the people who have kept meetings going in person. I pray that we can all practice patience, love and tolerance of our fellow AA members, regardless of where our meetings took place over the last year. I am a recipient of grace from my Higher Power, and I want to be an open channel for that grace to flow through me to others. And I can't wait to resume the in person hugs!

Written by Cindy G.

There are a handful of meetings still organizing online, some using a hybrid method, with the option to participate in person or virtually, and some that meeting fully in-person.

Meetings that have transitioned from online to hybrid are:

[Tuesday Night 12 & 12](#) – 7:30 p.m. Tuesday

[Tuesday Night Real Time \(Men's Meeting\)](#) – 7:30 p.m. Tuesday

[Tuesday Night 12 & 12](#) – 7:30 p.m. Tuesday

[Still At It 12 & 12](#) – 7:30 pm Wednesday

[Sisters in Sobriety \(Women's Meeting\)](#) – 8:00 a.m. Saturday

[Saturday Morning Men \(Men's Meeting\)](#) – 9:00 am Saturday

[Sunday Morning Newcomers](#) – 11:00 a.m. Sunday

[Sunday Night Big Book](#) – 7:30 p.m. Sunday

**Please inquire with meeting contacts for further meeting information.**

Please send information about meetings that need support, so it can be printed in *The Connection*!

For a full list of District 28 meetings, please visit our website:

<http://barringtonaa.org/meetings/>.

*Are you looking to add a service position to your program? District 28 has opportunities for you! Please see the list of open positions below.*

*The following positions for District 28 are open:*

- \*Alternate Archives Chair*
- \*Alternate Accessibilities Chair*
- \*Alternate Bridging the Gap Chair*
- \*Alternate CPC/PI Chair*
- \*Alternate Corrections Chair*
- \*Alternate Grapevine Chair*
- \*Alternate Literature Chair*
- \*Alternate Treasurer*

*Please join our next District meeting on Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.!*

*We meet the first Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom.*