

THE CONNECTION

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



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

Pink Clouds

Send us your experience, strength, and hope on Pink Clouds.

We are putting together a story for the next newsletter and would like to include your experience stories about the pink cloud.

Questions:

Do you know what a pink cloud is?

Did you experience a pink cloud in recovery?

If so, what was it like?

Are you still on the pink cloud?

What brought you down from the cloud?

What was it like?

Do you feel pink clouds can last forever?

If yes, why? If no, why?

Who or what burst your pink cloud, and can you get back to it?

Is a pink cloud sober and practicing recovery?

Anything else you would like to share about pink clouds?

Please send your responses to bks.emcy@gmail.com

Thank you

Open Chairs

We keep an open chair for newcomers and returning alcoholics at our regular meetings. Did you know that we also have “open chairs” for service-work? We invite you to join us in expanding your recovery and spiritual growth via service-work

Please see the details on page 7.

District 28 Newsletter Q&A – Newsletter Chair Barb S. with Outgoing Newsletter Chairperson Sarah R.

What did you do as the Newsletter chair?

As the former Newsletter chair, I would format, design, and distribute the seasonal District newsletter, using articles sent to me from various AA members, as well as providing any relevant news items for District 28. In addition, in light of changing meeting formats due to the pandemic, I would provide updated information about District 28 meeting format statuses – if they only in-person, hybrid, or on zoom. I would also provide reminders to contribute funds to GSO, Area, etc. and where to contribute. Essentially, I would strive to keep AA members that attend District 28 meetings updated on information that could impact them, as well as provide entertaining and inspirational articles. As this program asks us to share our experience, strength, and hope, it is important to provide a mix of business information and members' personal thoughts and experiences via articles.

Why do we have a Newsletter Chairperson?

We have a Newsletter Chair as part of our District service structure. This Chair is a trusted service, who executes and distributes the final product of the newsletter.

Where do we get the stories and information for the Newsletter?

The stories come from members who wanted to write and share content for the newsletter. Some are volunteers who take it upon themselves to write content and some might be tapped on the shoulder and asked if they would be willing to write an article. Meeting information (format status, etc.) is usually provided at District

meetings by the GSR's. Other information about events is gathered from either the Area 20 website or from District 28 business meetings. Finally, any information about open District 28 service positions comes from the District business meetings.

Why is it important for groups/people to have a newsletter?

Most importantly, it helps keep individual members connected with the District. A District newsletter also allows members to share content with a wider audience than AA members in the meetings they attend. In addition, it provides important information about meetings and service positions at the District level that can potentially boost AA member's spiritual progress.

How is the Newsletter printed and distributed?

Currently, the Newsletter is distributed online on the District 28 website (barringtonaa.org). This decision was made in light of the pandemic and many meetings held online. The newsletter can be found under "The Connection Newsletter" tab on the website.

Who can contribute to the Newsletter articles and information?

Anyone in AA! Articles or any other information that members would like to have included in the newsletter can be sent to the new District 28 Newsletter Chair, Barb S. bks.emcy@gmail.com



Warranties! - What the heck is that in AA?!?!?

Are the Warranties a guarantee of my Sobriety?

Does it mean I can get my “money” back if this program doesn’t work?

YES! Here’s how this works:

Item	Add-Ons	AA Price
If you want to drink... go for it	You have a right to do with “your” life as you please	\$0
	No one will stop you	\$0
	God might have other ideas for you, but you have free-will.	\$0
If you want to stop drinking	sticking around the meetings	You will get better
	and other recovering alcoholics	You will get better
	and at the very least by keeping on coming back to meetings	You will get better
	Even if you never work the steps, traditions, concepts, warranties, or do any service work... this program will sink in if you keep coming back to the meetings.	You will get better
If you also want to feel better	working the program	practically “guarantees” your recovery

* Guarantee/Warranty: If you feel it’s a rip-off and want to blame the program, the world or another member’s comments or actions for your slips, and want your “money-back”.... Just stop coming to meetings and your misery will be fully refunded. (heard at various meetings throughout the years, and it seems to work). On the other hand, we invite you to join us in the “Fellowship of the Spirit” with other recovering Alcoholics as we “trudge the road of happy destiny”. “May God bless you and keep you - until then”. (reference “A Vision For You” page 164 in the Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book 4th edition)

For more details and information please read the article below.

Freedom to Grow: A.A.’s Warranties—Amy C., Delegate Panel 65, Area 13 Washington D.C
(https://www.aa.org/sites/default/files/literature/en_rf_finalrep_may29-31-15.pdf)

District 28

Monthly Zoom Speaker Meeting

Date: Third Saturday of every month

Time: 6:00 p.m. CST

ZOOM ID: NEW ID as of January - 896 546 1954

PASSWORD: RECOVERY ZOOM

LINK: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6429988664?pwd=dJlnK3hoL1RTMnFPSUJyOGFWS2lQZz09>

*****Zoom information will remain the same for every meeting*****

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 meet fully in-person. Below is a list of meetings categorized by hybrid, in-person only, and online only. This list is comprised of information gathered in the District 28 meeting.

Some hybrid meetings are:

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

[Living in Recovery](#) – 7:30 p.m. Friday

[Sisters in Sobriety \(Women's Meeting\)](#) – 8:00 a.m. Saturday (NOTE: the Zoom meeting number has recently changed.)

[Sunday Early Birds](#) – 9:00 a.m. Sunday

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

[No Name Group](#) – 10:30 a.m. Sunday

Some meetings that are in-person ONLY are:

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

[Lake Zurich 12 & 12](#) – 7:00 p.m. Wednesday

[Still At It 12 & 12](#) – 7:30 p.m. Wednesday

[Barr Pals](#) – 8:00 p.m. Tuesday

[Saturday Morning Men \(Men's Meeting\)](#) – 8:30 am Saturday (NOTE: the location of this meeting is no longer at St. Anne's Church in Barrington. It is now located at the Presbyterian Church of Barrington on 6 Brinker Rd.)

Some meetings that are currently online ONLY:

[Sober Sisters 12 & 12](#) – 7:00 p.m. Tuesday

[Women's Way](#) – 7:00 p.m. Wednesday

[Barrington Big Book Meditation](#) – 7:00 p.m. Wednesday

[Sober Sisters Big Book Study](#) – 7:00 p.m. Thursday

[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:

HAVE A STORY, LESSON LEARNED, or
BIT OF JOY, HOPE, FAITH or GRATITUDE YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?

Write it out and submit it to THE CONNECTION!

We want to hear from you!

Please email your items to the newsletter chair via email at:
BKS.EMCY@GMAIL.COM

Use subject line Connections

Newsletter so it does NOT get lost.

District 28 business meetings take place the first Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom.

The following positions are open:

Archives Chair and Alternate Chair

Accessibility/Special Needs Chair and Alternate Chair

Alternate Answering Service Chair

Alternate Bridging the Gap Chair

Corrections Chair and Alternate Chair

CPC/PI Chair and Alternate Chair

Grapevine Chair and Alternate Chair

Alternate Literature Chair

Alternate Newsletter Chair

Alternate Secretary Chair

Alternate Treasurer Chair

Alternate Website Chair

Interested in one of these positions? Please come to the District 28 business meeting and learn more about them!

What's involved:

District 28 meets the first Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom. Be there and participate in the meetings.

The outgoing chair will bring you up to speed ("training" so-to-speak) on the position details.

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/>

Upcoming Events:

(Local area Calendar of activities)

Open Speaker meetings:

11th Annual DuPage County Open Speaker Meeting

Date: Saturday, February 26th, 2022

Time: Doors Open 6:00 p.m.; Speaker Meeting: 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Location: Parkview Community Church - 764 St. Charles Road, Glen Ellyn, IL, 60137

Conferences:

Illinois State Conference of Young People in AA (ISCYPAA) XXXIX

Date: Friday, February 11th – Sunday, February 13th

Time: Friday, February 11th @ 4:00 p.m. – Sunday, February 13th @ 12:00 p.m.

Location: The Sheraton Lisle – 3000 Warrenville Rd., Lisle, IL, 60532

Workshops:

NIA20 Monthly Grapevine Workshop (occurs 2nd Thursday of every month)

Date: Thursday, February 10th

Time: 7:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom (Zoom ID: 838 5328 2292; Password: grapevine)

Special Meetings:

All Area's Open Meeting For Accessibility Committee Members (occurs every 2nd and 4th Monday of every month)

Date: February 14, 28, 2022

Time: 7:00-8:00 p.m.

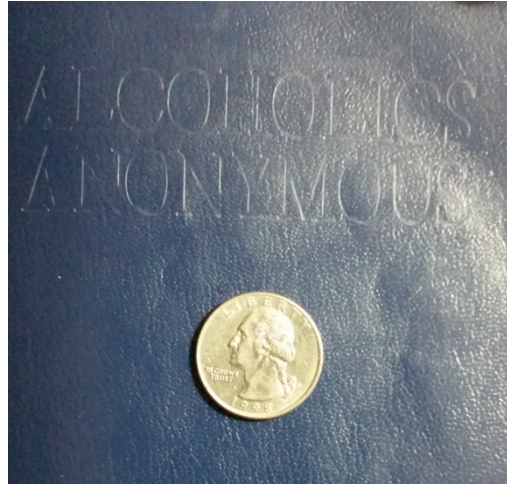
Location: Zoom (Zoom ID: 690-393-7306; Password: Area 45)

We are not a Glum lot!

Jokes for the fun of it ☺

A bunch of buddies walk into a bar to celebrate a great day of work. They start drinking and are having a great time. One guy doesn't want to drink and the bartender just looks at him and then leaves. They keep on drinking all evening. Eventually the bar is getting ready to close and so they slowly start to make their way to the door. The first guy walks out the door, looks to his right and sees a squad car. He gets distracted and trips over the garbage can. Slowly pulling himself back up, he starts to sway and stagger towards his car. He slips a second time, falls, and slowly pulls himself up again. Fumbles with the keys in his pocket till he finally gets them out, and sways back and forth as he tries to insert the key into the keyhole on his car door. Finally, he gets the car door open and plops himself in the driver's seat. He closes the door, starts the car, and begins to back up slowly, out of the parking space. Then he slowly turns the wheel, puts the shift lever into drive, and begins to roll forward towards the parking lot exit. Meanwhile, the police officer has been watching him the entire time. He quickly turns on the overhead flashing lights and pulls the guy over. The guy in his car rolls down his window and looks at the officer and asks "what did I do?" The officer asks him to step out of his car and says he's been drinking. He administers the tests to touch your nose, touch your toes, and then gives him a breathalyzer test. The officer looks at the results and shakes his head in disbelief. So he administers a second breathalyzer test. Again, the results turn out the same and he shakes his head. Finally, the officer says "I don't get it. There is not one drop of alcohol in your system, and yet I watched you stumble to your car!" The guy looks at him, smiles, and says "I'm the designated decoy"

If you have any clean AA related jokes, please send them to BKS.EMCY@gmail.com and maybe we will use them in a future newsletter. Thanks!



This Quarter's Big Book Scavenger Hunt

Figure out the slogan by finding the correct letter or word in the clues below:

-
- Word #1 - Step 9, 10th word
Word #2 - Who exclaimed they "can't go through with it?"
Word #3 - Another word for "left-us" as used in the phrase "The obsession for alcohol left us".
Word #4 - Page 122 (4th ed.), 3rd paragraph, third word in the sentence in quotes.
Word #5 - Not out
Word #6 - First word in the chapter title page 122 (4th ed.)
Word #7 - Page 25, (4th ed.) 1st paragraph, 4th sentence, 11th word
Word #8 - This word appears ONLY twice, in all the steps listed, on page 562 (4th ed)
Word #9 - Another word for "started upon" as in the phrase "Therefore, we started upon a personal inventory"
Word #10 - Similar – Rhymes with the word (fill in the blank) - People who cannot and will not recover are not
" _____ "themselves to this simple program
Word #11 - Complete the chapter title " __to Action"
Word #12 - 2nd word, page 550 (4th ed)
Word #13 - What will come if your own house is in order? (Singular, not plural)
Word #14 - First word, page 358 (4th ed.)
Word #15 - Third to last line, page 108, 2nd word (4th ed.)
Word #16 - Last paragraph, page 3, 2nd sentence, 2nd word (4th ed.)
Word #17 - Finish this quote – "Self-seeking will slip ____"

Answer: Page 417 = The answer to the question "Now, what am I going to do about it?"

Thank you for reading this. Hope you enjoyed it. This is a quarterly Newsletter for District 28 Alcoholics Anonymous. Please send your submissions, feedback, comments, and suggestions to BKS.EMCY@GMAIL.com. Hope you have a Happy Winter.