

**AA Literature
Bookstore**
Open every day 7 AM - 8 AM
@ Early Birds
Literature sold at cost!
20% price increase on all new
shipments we order
Old prices are still available
while supply lasts!!!

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR



BIG AL W.

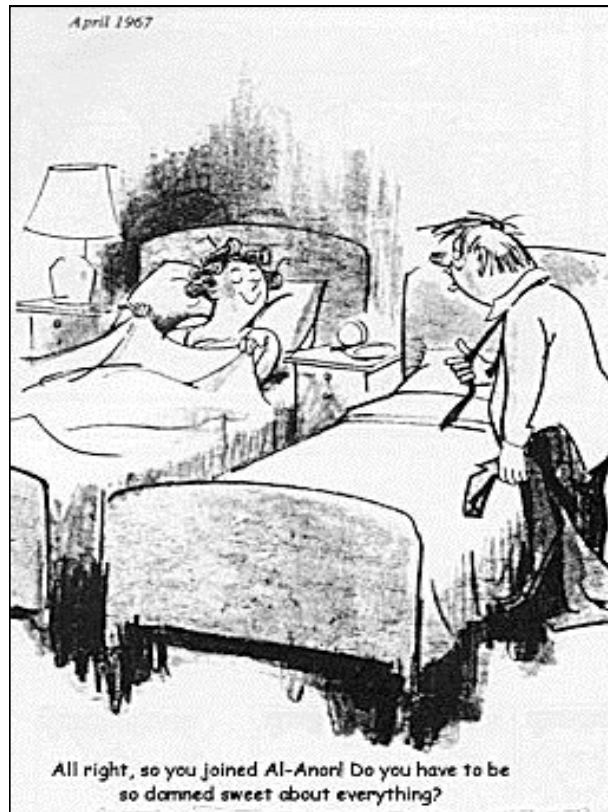
There will be a celebration of life for Al on Saturday, August 30th, 12 noon to 4 pm.

Fairview Grange, 2123 Lake Farm Rd.
Lunch at noon—bring a dish to share

Service will be at 1 PM, bring your pictures and stories of Al to share. Help celebrate the life of a man who shared so much with so many.

To help or donate Call: Clair K 461-2240
Bob C. 4615528 or Chris H. 670-2020

FROM THE GRAPEVINE



**ACCESSIBILITIES COMMITTEE
NOTE**

The Accessibilities Committee is interested in providing child care for parents with young children who have this need. We are still in the idea stage so share your thoughts and suggestions. Let us know if you have this need.

Suggestions from the Area Accessibility Chair: 1. If your meeting has child care, let everyone know about it, add it to meeting schedules and websites. 2. If your meeting is open and "kid friendly" let everyone know that too. 3. As individual members know what meetings in your area have child care or are "kid friendly" so that you can pass on this information to those in need. Neil C., Accessibility Chair Phone: 461-5101

DISTRICT 55

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2014

NEWSLETTER

DCM REPORT

Greetings, Hope all of you have been enjoying this beautiful summer we have been blessed with. I just returned from the July quarterly in Enumclaw this weekend. It is the last quarterly I will attend in my rotation. I have had the privilege of meeting some awesome people doing the work of AA for our Area. This is one of the things I love most about the fellowship, the lasting relationships I have been given. I may only see these people once in a while but I will always feel that comradery and kinship whenever our paths cross.

So on Friday night we discussed Safety In AA hear is a list of some of the issues that were discussed.

- Sexual Harrassment or Attack
- Pressuring members to join a particular religious group
- Borrowing Money
- Selling goods for personal gain
- Offering investment schemes
- Theft of group funds
- Child Safety (using the word friendly vs child care of babysitting) those words imply you are saying you are responsible according to state regulations DSHS
- Young People under the age of 18 (certain laws apply)
- Bullying & Harassment
- Physical safety in and around meeting spaces
- How do we handle disruptive people
- Emergency preparedness (Fire, Earthquake etc.)

It was a lively topic and one that I think we should all be discussing in our home groups.

Onto Saturdays business:

There was a motion for setting up an Area Checking account to put donations for ASL that can be distributed as needed. I have given the GSR's a copy of this motion so you can be discussing it prior to the Pre-Assembly and ready to vote your groups conscience at the Assembly in October.

The Ad Hoc Committee that did research on the possibility of having a second Assembly or other methods of

handling the area's business was presented and will be discussed more at the Pre-Assemblies. What was most apparent was that we have a pretty good system and that we should work on tweaking what we have. One of the concerns is how help the GSR's feel they are being heard. One thing was to have our GSR's attend the quarterlies during the year so they are well informed about what will be on the Assembly agenda.

There was more discussion about us rejoining the Pacific Northwest Conference I have given the GSR's a packet giving those of us who have no idea what that is some background information. We had several of our members attend the one in Spokane just recently and they reported on their experiences. All said it was very informative and would recommend that we consider joining again. The conferences purpose is to develop greater unity between the members, groups and Areas of the Pacific Northwest. To encourage the exchange of ideas and experiences, and provide an opportunity for members to discuss pertinent aspects of AA. Recovery, unity and service should always be the primary purpose for each Conference. The thought of how we can better serve Alcoholics Anonymous should never be compromised. will be more. I encourage all of those interested in service to talk with those of us in positions about what is involved. We have a District handbook which give an explanation of the positions available in our District.

WE WILL BE HOLDING ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER FOR ALL THE POSITIONS ROTATING OUT. ASK IN YOUR MEDITATION, TALK WITH YOUR SPONSOR, TALK TO OTHERS.... COME JOIN US AT THE DISTRICT MEETING THE 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH.

Yours in Service

Brenda

R. H. SMITH, M. D.
2ND NATIONAL BLDG. AKRON, OHIO
TELEPHONE: WE-8523 REG. NO. _____

FOR alcoholics
ADDRESS _____ DATE Feb 1937

always remember it

1. Trust God
2. Clean house
3. Help others

NR 1 2 3 INF. _____ M. D.

ACTIVITIES: Next Up, Annual Picnic

Hello: I thought I'd better get the word out about what is going on in District 55 activities. As you are all aware, August 2nd is the annual picnic with District 22 and the baseball game between between the two districts. There will be a potluck lunch with the districts providing hamburgers, hotdogs, and beverages including that World Famous AA Coffee!

So far here in District 55 we have been having a happy and joyous spring with the Spring Fling and Auction. We also had a great time sharing with District 22's support of Founders' Day.

We are now starting to gear up for the Gratitude Banquet which will be the first weekend in November. We are putting together the sub-committees that make this event possible,. Here is how you can be a part of a committee, or just simply volunteer to help anywhere help is needed: come to the activities committee meeting on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 4 PM at St. Lukes Church in the Fireside Room downstairs. Come be part of the fun of service and see why "we are not a glum lot".

THANK YOU

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have been of such great service to this committee. Bill W. for his contribution of the Tri-tips that he cooked and served at the Spring Fling & Auction; Mike B for his undying devotion to the cooking of hot dogs & hamburgers; Brett C. and Rodney for helping me get the supplies and equipment to the event and help cleaning up. Thank you also to Joni H. and Mike R. for their financial skills handling the monies of the 50/50 raffle and the auction. And a big thank you to all of you who showed up to make these events such a success.

We had a great turn-out for Founders Day this year and the combined efforts of District 22 & 55 working together were just awesome. A big shout to Lloyd F. from District 22 for his devotion to helping me put this together. Thanks for their archives display, and thanks to Marty for his huge bar-b-cue. I also want to thank our literature chair, Kathy K., for the literature display. I especially loved the anniversary edition of the first printing of the Big Book in the little red wagon. Thanks Bill W. for the archives display and thanks to everyone who worked so diligently to make Founders' Day a hit, at least in my book.

Grateful to be of Service , Jerry G.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday July 21st Sequim Bay AA Group Annual Hot Dog Cookout, Potluck, & Open AA Meeting. **Little Brown Church of Blyn** 220 Zaccardo Rd. Hot Dogs, buns sodas, plates provided. Bring a side dish to share. **Cookout 5:30 PM, Meeting 6:30 PM**

Wednesday July 23rd: AA Hotline Workshop. Learn to take calls from the answering service and to do 12th step work. **American Legion Hall 6 PM**

September 5-7 North Olympic Celebration, Spiritual Recovery Retreat.. Retreat events include: Step Workshop, Led Meditations, Chair Massage, Field Trips & much more. Games, food, fellowship. **Camp David Jr.** on beautiful Lake Crescent. Fliers/registration forms available at most home group meetings.

THE HISTORY OF DISTRICT 55

In July of 1993 District 22 included more than 50 groups and geographically stretched across the entire north Olympic Peninsula, a distance of over 150 miles. The DCM of District 22 at that time, Al W., after carefully reading his service manual decided that as much accommodation as possible had already been made and that the district was simply too large to function efficiently any more. So he began to talk to GSRs from groups from Jefferson County in the east to western Clallam County about the possibility of splitting the district.

At first, as in any proposed change, all he got was resistance, but eventually people began to think about a district split as a solution that truly was viable. Port Townsend and the rest of Jefferson County already functioned more as a unit; and the west end of Clallam County including the town of Forks had too few groups to really function as a viable district on its own. However, between the west end, Port Angeles, and the Sequim area there were still too many groups to fit with the suggestions in the service manual about the best size for a district.

So on July 25, 1993, a meeting was held at the American Legion Hall in Sequim which included members from many of the groups in the Sequim area. Trisha C. and Lou C. came from Camano Island to speak and share their experience with a district split in their area. After they spoke it was decided that a district split meeting be convened on August 1. Eleven of the 16 groups in the proposed area of the new district were represented at the district split meeting, and Phyllis H., the current Washington Area Delegate, was also in attendance to help guide out process. The representatives voted to form a new district with the geographical boundaries of O'Brien Road on the west, the Olympic National Park on the south, the Jefferson County line on the east, and the Strait of Juan De Fuca on the north. The boundaries included 16 groups and Phyllis said that the next number available for a district number was 55, so the group took that number.

The newly formed district 55 then decided to hold an election for district officers, and elected Sally C. as DCM; Don W., alternate DCM; Susie P. as district secretary; and Robert H. as district treasurer. It was understood that the formation of the new district would be placed on the agenda for the Wa1993.shington Area Assembly and would be voted on to be seated there, which was done at the assembly October 9, 1993.

History of the Sequim Early Birds

Early Birds was founded in March of 1989 by Neil C. and Rod S. Their first meetings were held at Jefferies Café on Tuesday mornings. Some mornings Jeffries didn't open and some of the members suspected that it was because the owner had a bad hangover, but this was never proved. But when the restaurant didn't open the group moved to Rod S.' house or to Sequim Vision Clinic where Neil worked. This was in November and December of 1989.

Then in 1990 the group began meeting in the back room of the Rainy Day Café. At this time it had gone to Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 7AM, and usually had 6 to 8 people in attendance. But the group continued to grow and when attendance went up to 10 to 12 people the group expanded to 7 meetings a week. The Rainy Day Café was sold and the name changed to Son's Café, but the group continued to meet in the back room. Eventually the back room of Son's became a meeting room for many of the groups in Sequim, but Early Birds was the largest group that met there. Members constructed the benches and put up the window shade steps and traditions, as well as some of the slogan signs on the wall.

Early Birds has always been an open meeting, and a discussion meeting which takes a topic from the big book. The suggestion is always made at the meetings to please limit your comments so everyone will have a chance to share. This is because currently 35 to 60 people attend the meetings each day, and there are nearly 100 people who call Early Birds their home group. This makes it the largest group in Sequim.

In April of 1999 the group moved its meeting place to the American Legion Hall which is where it currently meets.