

# Big Book<sup>®</sup>

## Bonfire Bonus!!!

Some of the favorite words from the Big Book<sup>®</sup> chosen by

### Anonymous A.A.<sup>®</sup> Members

“Rarely have we seen a person who has thoroughly followed our path...”

“They seem to have been born that way; they are not at fault.....”

“This is the how and the why of it. First of all, we had to quit playing God. It didn’t work.....”

“What I’ve learned is that it doesn’t matter what hardships and losses I’ve endured, I have not had to go back to drinking...”

### Some easy ones!!!

- A regular feature until all of the “bonfire” favorites have been printed.

*Thanks for Sharing!!!*

## From the Delegate’s Report

The General Service Office is allowed only two sources of income: Sale of A.A. literature and Contributions from within the society. To help support A.A.’s essential services, the General Service Conference suggests that individual groups, through an informed group conscience, adopt a specific contribution plan tailored to meet the group’s financial situation. Our **spirit of participation** means no contribution toward carrying the message can be too small.

A.A.’s financial affairs are an “open” book. A summary is published in each Quarterly Report, and a full accounting is printed each year in the Final Conference Report. The account books are available at the General Service Office for scrutiny at any time.

The percentage of groups who contributed to G.S.O. was **42.4%** in 2012, **42.5%** in 2013, and in 2014, less than 42%, and only **39% in WWA 72**. Contributions paid for almost 71% of services provided by GSO last year.

At the end of 2013, the **cost of services per group was \$147.00 per year**, while the average **contribution per group was \$107.00**. The shortfall between these two figures is made up from income from A.A. publications. When we fully support G.S.O. services by contributions, A.A. literature can be sold at cost.

### **AA’s 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday Detroit in 2020!**

*International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous<sup>®</sup>*

### **Want to go???**

#### **Create a “one day at a time” plan!**

- 1. Pocket change in a jar at end of day!???**
- 2. Skip a treat one day/week, money in a jar!!**

*“We could increase the list ad infinitum.”*

**Any ideas for your plan??**

# District 55 Newsletter

To receive newsletter via email - send request to [dist55news@gmail.com](mailto:dist55news@gmail.com)  
[dist55news@gmail.com](mailto:dist55news@gmail.com) July 2015

## **Area 72 July Quarterly**

### **Peninsula Districts 10, 22, 43, 55 & 56 Pre-Assembly meeting**

**22 August at 285 Fifth Street, Bremerton.**

**Additional Pre-assembly meetings will be August 1, 2, 9, 15, 16 & 23.**

**Check [area72aa.org](http://area72aa.org) for details!**

### **Area 72 Committee members discussed an Assembly motion**

**RE: Pacific Northwest Conference, whose next event will be 24-26 June 2016 in Pendleton, OR. [pnc2016info@gmail.com](mailto:pnc2016info@gmail.com)**

**Theme: “Our Spiritual Way of Life: Steps, Traditions and Concepts”**

### **2016 Area 72 Quarterly business meetings will be hosted by**

**Districts 22 & 55, January 8-9, District 8, April 8-9, and District 18, July 8-9**

## **Call for Stories**

The Trustees Literature Committee is requesting our help. Pamphlets, “AA for the Woman,” and “A.A. and the Gay/Lesbian Alcoholic,” are being re-written to include a broader view of AA recovery experience. Stories of AA recovery experience from members with mental health issues, and who have sponsored such members are being sought for inclusion in a new pamphlet. **Please participate in this vital link to reach a wider variety of still suffering alcoholic.** Go to [aa.org](http://aa.org) for more information.

The Area 72 Archives Committee requests the Groups compose their stories for another history book. An ad hoc committee is working with the Area 72 Archives Committee access the interest in a new area history, and discussing how one might develop, if groups want to participate. Roger, our Area Archivist, suggested that each District Archives Committee add their groups’ stories for District Archives.

Please send your stories and articles to [dist55news@gmail.com](mailto:dist55news@gmail.com)  
Read online at [www.district55aa.com](http://www.district55aa.com) Click “Newsletter”

*"Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix®"*

Twelfth Step work, carrying the message to the next suffering alcoholic, is the **lifeblood of Alcoholics Anonymous®**. Without it, the Fellowship would wither and die. This vital contact between one alcoholic and another involves an investment of time and money. **Resolve is not enough; we must take action, and spend money.**

Our support of A.A. service entities amounts to recognition that A.A. must function at full strength everywhere, and that we are all going to foot the bill. To ensure that the hand of A.A. will always remain outstretched, **money and spirituality must mix**. And for that, we are all responsible.

**"Self-support begins with me**, because I am part of us — the group. We pay our rent and utility bills, buy coffee, snacks and A.A. literature. **We support our central office, our area committee, and our General Service Office.** If it were not for those entities, many new people would never discover the miracles of A.A."

[www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/f-3/selfsupport.pdf](http://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/f-3/selfsupport.pdf),

pamphlet #F-3

Since we are not doing that, **what are we doing?** Are we using our pull on the wallet of GSO to say we **unhappy with the services offered by GSO?** Or is something else happening?

## BLAST FROM THE PAST

Yesterday, as I left a thrift store in Port Angeles, I heard someone calling my name. A woman walked up to me saying, "Is that really you? I thought I recognized your voice! Do you remember me? You were my nurse at the "sober house," after my surgery a long time ago. You took care of me when I was struggling. I've been sober since that time. You were such an important part of changing my life." She said that she had been praying for me recently, and here we were, meeting at the thrift store!

I remembered her, of course. At that time, I had been sober for nine years. Although I hadn't gone to any meetings for six years, I had enough program left in me to share the essentials: **"One day at a time,"** and **"Let God have control."** I drank again later that year. Still, I helped someone else find the path to abundant life and sobriety! I am truly humbled, and grateful. I remembered that we never know the impact of each act of kindness, and sharing the message of AA.....  
**Hope.**

Today, I have been truly sober many years. I use the same principles that I shared all those years ago. My recollection of those years was dark. **Now, I see, with God and the AA program, a bit of light shines, even in dark times, and even a sliver of light can dispel the darkness.**

-- Anonymous.

## *District 55 Softball*

*Carrie Blake Park*

*Sunday @ Noon*

**Equipment provided every Sunday**

**All A.A.s, Families and Friends are welcome!!**

Contact Mike L. @ Duck In or Jim W. or

*Come play!!!*

## DCM Report: Hello to all out there in District 55 of Alcoholics Anonymous!

Hope that everyone had a safe and happy Independence Day. Thanks to our Activities Committee we here in District 55 had a happy and sane Independence Day celebration down on the water at Port Williams in beautiful sunny Sequim. Oh did I forget to mention that we had plenty of food and fresh caught crab cooked on the spot. District 55 is making good headway with our Home Groups and Sub-committees. We have recently brought our Literature/Grapevine ordering back into the District treasury. We have people interested in the **Literature/Grapevine Committee**. They are doing a great job. We are currently discussing the method for ordering books and literature. Our **PI/CPC Committee** is making headway with the professional community. Our **Schedules and Phone Service Committee** is on track with updates and our new phone service. Our Newsletter Editor is filling our **Newsletter** with all kinds of information about what is going on in our District, Area 72, and A.A. as a whole. Our **Treatment Committee** is getting meeting schedules and information to the treatment facilities. Our new business meeting format seems to be working well. We are ironing out the glitches and everyone seems to be on board with this change. We are still looking for a **Correction Committee Chair** as well as an **Archives Chair**. We keep trudging the road of happy destiny along with our Sub-committees and Home Groups to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic. I'm so grateful to be part of the community of Alcoholics Anonymous and to be of service.

Thank you to all.

In Service,

Jerry G., DCM District 55

## ***Join District 55 Service!!***

**District 55 Business Meeting - Every third Sunday at 5PM, basement of St Luke's on 5th**  
**District 55 Activities Committee meets Every third Sunday at 4PM, basement St Luke's**  
**Combined District 55/22 Corrections Committee meets Every Second Sunday at 4PM**  
at 711 East Second Street, Port Angeles, WA 98362 - **Males are especially needed.**

**District 55 Literature Committee Chair & GRAPEVINE® contact is Larry G.** Contact him at **Duck In** meetings on **Friday and Sunday**. Larry needs volunteers to help at functions.  
<> **District 55 AA Hotline - Pick your time to answer 12-Step calls!!! - Contact Dana C.**  
**New AA Hotline numbers for Sequim are 360-797-0259 and 877-682-4143**

◀◀◀◀ **ALL A.A.s ARE WELCOME and ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!!!** ▶▶▶▶

## *General Service Events*

### ***2015 Western Washington Area 72 Assembly***

October 16 - 18 @ Bell Harbor International Conference Center, 2211 Alaskan Way Seattle, WA  
Online Registration Forms are at [area72aa.org](http://area72aa.org)

### ***Area 72 January 2016 Business Quarterly - January 8-9***

Hosted by Districts 22 and 55! **Service opportunities will be plentiful!!** Details will follow!