

## Schedule for the Day!!

**November 7**

9AM – Set-Up and Decorate!

Set up Table and Chairs

Decorate Stage

Decorate Tables

Place Utensils/Napkins

**And More!!!**

5PM – Doors open

6PM – Dinner starts

7PM – Program starts

*Speaker*

**Clean-Up to follow**

**district55aa.com**

**Check out District 55 website!**

In addition to the latest meeting schedule, news about events is posted on the site and updated often.

Our web-servant, Kathryn, has created anonymous email addresses for each District 55 committee position. The email address will be shifted as members rotate.

Now, the email contact info for District 55 trusted servants & standing committee chairs is available online!

**Take a look!!!**

Thanks to the volunteers who have worked to make the Gratitude Banquet so much fun for us!!!

**Tickets / Flyers**

Michael R.

**Door Prizes**

Neil C.

**Set Up**

Ron D. and Friends

**Stage Decorations**

Duck In

**Table Decorations**

Sequim 'n Women

**Kitchen**

Don D. and Crew

**Greeters**

Phil, Teresa, Megan and

Melody....Need 4 more

**Coffee / Beverages**

Vickie, Susan, Sandy

**Speaker Hostess**

Beth V.

**Master of Ceremony**

Sally C.

**Clean up crew**

**Grateful People!!**

# District 55 News

**dist55news@gmail.com**

**October 2015**

## *23<sup>rd</sup> Gratitude Banquet*

### *November 7-Boys and Girls Club*

In 1993, after District 55 and District 56 were created from a split of District 22, we held our first Gratitude Banquet the Masonic Temple in Sequim. The North Olympic Peninsula districts continue to cooperate by scheduling our Gratitude celebrations on several weekends, so AAs can enjoy extra special fellowship throughout the month of November.

*Speaker is Lynn H. from Irvine, California*

*14 November – Port Townsend Banquet*

*21 November – Port Angeles Banquet*

**Hello to all out there in District 55!** Your standing committees are working. The Literature/Grapevine Committee is active and functioning. The Treasurer's Ad Hoc Committee is working on next year's budget. We are updating the district's handbook. Our web page has some new improvements! Our Standing Committees and Trusted Servants now have email addresses. The PI/CPC committee is finding some ways to get the message to the still suffering alcoholic thru the professional community and our local radio station, as well. **"Welcome aboard"** to our new Archivist who can't wait 'til she can do an Archives display. We are getting more participation from the groups. Hope to see you at the Gratitude Banquet at the Boys and Girls Club. Well, we just keep trudging the road of happy destiny here and making progress.

**In Service,**

Isn't that what it is all about?

Jerry G. DCM Dist.55

# In A.A.-- November is Gratitude Month or Traditions Month!!

For many decades now, we have **formally** carved out **November** to express our **collective** gratitude for our **individual** sobriety.

Bill wrote, "We could thus **reinforce our faith** in the future by these prudent works; we could **show that we deserve** to go on receiving that **priceless gift of oneness** which God in his wisdom has so **freely given** to us of Alcoholics Anonymous in the precious years of our infancy."

- **Grapevine®**, November 1949

"The **General Service Board** began giving small **gratitude** dinners in the 1940s. These were precursors to the much larger **Gratitude Luncheons** that were orchestrated during the 1960s as a **Public Information effort** of G.S.O. .... There was always plenty of **A.A. literature** available for the guests to take along. In 1965, Bill sent an autographed copy of the newly-released **A.A. Comes of Age** to each guest."

**A.A. Traditions anchor our new sober life.**

Bill W. wrote, "What then could be more **appropriate** than to set aside Thanksgiving week for **discussion of the practical and spiritual values** to be discovered in our Traditions?"

"The **Traditions** are a **distillate of our experience of living and working together**. They **apply the spirit of the Twelve recovery Steps** to our group life and security."

- **The Language of the Heart®**, p. 96.

The **first** sealed and approved **official recognition** of an A.A. "**Gratitude Week**," to be specifically designated to coincide with Thanksgiving week, dates back to 1956. That year, at the **Sixth General Service Conference**, delegates approved a motion stipulating that "**this action be noted in the annual pre-Thanksgiving appeals to the groups for funds to help support A.A.'s worldwide services.**"

*Traditions meetings bring home to us the richness of our A.A. heritage, strengthening our gratitude, and the sobriety of A.A.s, old and new.*

## Gratitude

**Gratitude serves us best when it is alive**, in our individual lives and in our group conscience. Realizing this, countless A.A. groups have used the month of November to **open the door of gratitude** even wider. Many groups observe **Gratitude Month** by holding **Traditions meetings** and taking up **special contributions to the General Service Office** for A.A. services worldwide. **Expressing our Gratitude** is a sure way of insuring a continued healthy sobriety, group unity, and to avoid complacency and stagnation.

This is an **opportunity for all A.A.s** to think of new and expanding ways to **express and share their gratitude**.

**For example**, groups could hold topic meetings during the month on the **power and different faces of gratitude**:

**"How Grateful Are We?"**

**"Gratitude is not Passive"**

**"Giving it Away"**

**Let's give Gratitude a real work out this year!**

(Excerpts reprinted from **Box 4-5-9®**, Oct./Nov. 1994)

Your Public Information and Cooperation with Professionals Committee sent 28 packets to the medical community and 27 to Sequim churches. These packets included some literature and an introductory letter. Phone calls followed the mailing to assure receipt and offer assistance. We are delivering literature to the senior and convalescent homes in Sequim. PI/CPC placed the **Big Book** and **12 X 12** in the North Olympic Peninsula Library system, updated all schedules in local hotels, supplied literature to the Boys and Girls Club and the new civic center, and sent introductory letters, offering presentations, with literature to all three local High School Counselors.

PI/CPC has gotten the AA hotline numbers listed in the white/yellow pages of the Red Book online and in the Local Pages telephone book for 2016.

Public Service Announcements about AA are running on all local radio stations. AA is listed in the **Sequim Gazette** local calendar of events. PI/CPC hopes to schedule an interview with AA members which will air on KSQM 91.5.

Thank you for allowing us to be of service;

Georgette H., Kate L., and Lara S.

[Publicinfo.district55@gmail.com](mailto:Publicinfo.district55@gmail.com)

This is a **letter** from one of the inmates at **Clallam Bay prison**, addressed to the **A.A. members** who attend the prison meetings there. **If you are willing to attend meetings in a correctional facility in Clallam County**, please let anyone on the Corrections Committee know. **We need the help**. For more information go to **www.district55aa.com**

**"Dear Members, A.A.**

First, let me begin with a **thank you, I also am a member**. With a group of diverse backgrounds, ages, dreams, and goals – but, this is not about me or even the group. It's about **us**, as a **fellowship in A.A.** imprisoned behind concrete and razor wire.

**I thank you because without your support there would be no fellowship**. I commend those that are willing to put aside a moment of their time, in most cases hours, so that **A.A. can be visualized, vocalized, and spiritualized even inside of prison**.

Your support and time, money cannot buy. How can a price be set for helping to save lives? **I urge you** to ask and **seek others to serve** in their own capacity so that A.A. continues to be available to those like myself. I forgot to mention, my name is Howard. I'm an alcoholic-addict in prison.

Again, I just want to **thank the members that volunteer** time and support, and say that **without them -, there is no us**.

**Stop by the**

**Archives display at  
Gratitude Banquet!!!**

**Christine S**

[archivistdistrict55@gmail.com](mailto:archivistdistrict55@gmail.com)

How about trying  
something new,

something your group  
has never done before,  
which will make the  
members' gratitude  
more tangible & real?

Respectfully, Howard S"