

Reaching Al-Anon People

December, 2013

Al-Anon Information Services of the Delaware Valley

www.aisdv.org

Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 19, 20, 32

Al-Anon Anniversary Meeting

Strength in Recovery AFG, D-20 , Thurs., Dec. 5 7 pm, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church
1634 Hiltown Pike, Hiltown 18927

Indian Valley AFG, D-3, Fri., Dec. 13, 7 pm Little Zion Lutheran Church, 267 Morwood Rd Telford 18969

God As We Understand Meetings

Tuesday Morning Serenity AFG, D-20, Dec. 3 10 am, St. Andrew UMC, 999 York Road
Warminster 18974

Lansdale AFG, D-3, Dec. 3, 10 am
Trinity Lutheran Church, Luther Hall Building
Valley Forge and Main St, Lansdale 19446

Hope and Serenity AFG, D-20, Dec. 6, 10 am Davisville Church (bottom gym) 325 Street Road, Southampton 18966

Richboro Thurs. Night AFG, D-20, 7:30 pm St. John's Methodist Church, 820 Almshouse Rd. Ivyland 18974

South Phila. AFG, D-2, Friday, Dec. 13, 7 pm 1605 E. Moyamensing Ave, Philadelphia 19148

Mayfair AFG, D-1, Tues., Dec. 17, 1 pm St. John's Lutheran Church Hawthorn & Tyson Aves., Philadelphia, PA 19149 (ENTER ON TYSON AVENUE)

Northeast Women's AFG, D-1, Sat., Dec. 21 9:30 am Gloria Dei Lutheran Church Huntingdon Pike & Old Welsh Rd. Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006

Sat. Night Recovery AFG, D-32, Dec. 21, 6:45 pm Crossroads Presby. Church, 10 West Cherry Lane Limerick 19468

Flourtown AFG, D-3, Sat., Dec. 28, 1 pm St. Paul's United Church of Christ 440 Bethlehem Pike, Fort Washington 19034

Positions Open on AISDV Board

At the AISDV Board Meeting in November, the elections took place, and two of the open positions were filled, the Institutions Coordinator and Literature Coordinator. That means the following positions are still open: Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Asst. Secretary, and Asst. Treasurer, plus the following coordinator positions: RAP Newsletter Coordinator., Archives Coordinator. Please support carrying the message to those in need by serving on the AISDV Board in one of these positions!

Alateen Winter Workshop

January 4, 3 to 10 pm at St. Mary's Episcopal

Lancaster & Louelle Avenues, Wayne, PA 19087 Teens must bring a signed permission slip. Go to aisdv.org calendar page for flyer and permission slip.

Institutions Outreach

Bowling Green - Brandywine Institution Comprehensive Addiction Treatment Center 1375 Newark Rd., Kennett Square 19312 Sundays, Dec. 1, 8, 29 from 1 to 2 pm

Girard Medical Center, 8th St. & Girard Ave., Phila. Sundays, Dec. 1 & 15 from 1 to 2 pm

Malvern Institute IOP Ctr., (Enter from back) 1161 Lancaster Ave., Berwyn 19312 Sat., Dec. 7, 14, 21, 28 from 11:30 am -12 pm

Mirmont Treatment Ctr., 100 Yearsley Mill Rd. Lima, Sat., Dec. 14 & 28 from 1:50 to 3 pm

Northeast Philadelphia Women's Prison Speakers Needed - Tuesdays, 7 pm – 8 pm Every 1st & 3rd Tues. For info e-mail district1dawn@verizon.net

Business Meeting

AISDV Steering Committee Mtg Conference Call Dec. 19, 7:30 pm, For Alternate DRs & the AISDV Board. Email secretary@aisdv.org for details.

The RAP AISDV 4021 Walnut Street Philadelphia, PA 19104 215-222-5244 www.aisdv.org

Al-Anon's Three Legacies - December

Step Twelve – Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to others and practice these principles in all our affairs.

What does Step 12 mean to me today? First, I ask myself, have I really had a spiritual awakening. I believe the answer is yes. Each day the tools that I have learned from my Al-Anon family have allowed me to let light into my life, where before there was only darkness. This light, I believe, is Spirit and with the light I can see beauty that I was unable to see before. Then I find, to carry this message, I need only see and appreciate the light, and the message carries itself to others around me. Friends, family, co-workers all have noticed a change in my demeanor. If they ask what has changed and it seems an appropriate time and place to mention Al-Anon, I will tell them. Otherwise, I will just let the joy and happiness of my Spiritual Awakening speak for itself. ~ Anonymous

Tradition Twelve - Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles above personalities.

Anonymity is the reason why we are safe coming to meetings and sharing, because what we say and our presence there will not be divulged. Thanks to anonymity, in an Al-Anon meeting we are free from the labels and expectations of the outside world, and we are unified as equals with a common bond.

"Principles above personalities" to me means we strive to overlook minor irritations and to keep an open mind listening to everyone's sharing. In doing so, we are more able to focus on what we have in common and learn from people we may not agree with. In our closing it says, "You may not like all of us, but you'll love us in a very special way, the same way we already love you." The WAY is paved by honoring anonymity and principles above personalities as specified in Tradition Twelve!

Irene – Dist. 5

Concept Twelve - The spiritual foundation for Al-Anon's world services is contained in the General Warranties of the Conference, Article 12 of the Charter.

How dry Concept 12 seems! And, on top of that, we have to go to Al-Anon's Charter to get the actual warranties. Well, guess what—the wording in the Charter is exactly what is written in our Service Manual on Concept 12.

For the past year, AISDV has been considering revisions to its by-laws to open more positions to dual members (those who belong both to Al-Anon and to A.A.). Some members have very strong feelings on both sides of this issue and it can be difficult to hear opposing feelings with an open mind. So, here is a practical application of our Warranties:

Warranty 2 states "that no Conference member shall be placed in unqualified authority over other members." Nobody is the "boss" of Al-Anon whether they agree with me or not.

And Warranty 3 states "that all decisions be reached by discussion, vote and, whenever possible, by unanimity." This is why your ISR is taking up some of your meeting time to present a picture of these proposed changes and their implications. Discussion, then voting, and "whenever possible," unanimity.

Our newest Service Manual states (p. 220) that "we erect a safeguard against any hasty or overbearing authority of a simple majority; and...take notice of the rights and the frequent wisdom of minorities, however small. This principle further guarantees that all matters of importance will be extensively debated..."

Imagine that! Concept 12 and the Service Manual are not so dry after all!

(By the way, the Service Manual is available at http://www.al-anonfamilygroups.org/member-site)

Rosalie S., Dist. 5

WISDOM FROM THE ROOMS



SUSPEND JUDGMENT PRESUME GOODWILL