
District 48

Monthly Newsletter

March 2019

Greater Williamsport Area Alcoholics Anonymous

Welcome to the March issue of the District 48 monthly newsletter! Each month's newsletter is posted on the district website, district48aa.org, where it can be read or printed out to share. As each new issue appears, the old issue will be archived on the site. Hard copies of the newsletter will be made available to all GSRs at the monthly district meeting for distribution to individual meetings throughout the district.

Unlike gossip, some things need repeating:

In order for this newsletter to become a viable and relevant communication vehicle that shares positive news of Recovery among us – you need to be an active participant. Share the news of what's working in your meeting, home group and life by sending it in to newsletter@district48aa.org (see the **Important Announcements** section on this page for ideas and monthly deadline – yes, they are also repeated this month – just for good measure!

Answers to Burning AA Questions

Q. Who wrote AA's Preamble? And when was the word "honest" dropped from it (i.e. "honest desire to stop drinking"), and why?

A. The Preamble first appeared in the Grapevine in June 1947, and was written by Tom Y., the Grapevine Editor serving at that time. Its intent was to inform the public as to what A.A. is and what it is not. Shortly thereafter, the Preamble began appearing in each monthly issue of the Grapevine, and later on in much of our A.A. Conference-approved literature. In 1992 the Grapevine published a short history of the Preamble.

In the 1947 version of the Preamble, it contained the wording, "...an honest desire to stop drinking..." as printed in the foreword to the first edition of the Big Book. However, since the adoption of the short form of the Traditions in 1950, the Third Tradition has always read, "The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking" and this form was used by Bill in writing the book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*.

In 1958 the expression "honest desire" was discussed at great length at the General Service Conference. It was felt that it was impossible to determine what constitutes an "honest" desire to stop drinking, thus the word was dropped. The "new" version of the Preamble, without the word "honest," first appeared in the September 1958 issue of the Grapevine.

*(FAQ's About AA History/aa.org)



Step 3

Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.

Tradition 3

The only requirement for A.A. is a desire to stop drinking.



Live one day at a time emphasizing ethics rather than rules.

Wayne Dyer



Concept III: "As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision."

Grapevine March Quote

"Ever deepening humility, accompanied by an ever greater willingness to accept and to act upon clear obligations -- these are truly our touchstones for all growth in the life of the spirit."

Bill W., January 1966, "The Guidance of AA's World Affairs," The Language of the Heart

Anniversary

If you would like your anniversary in the newsletter please email me at Newsletter@district48aa.org