

September 2026 DISTRICT 52 NEWSLETTER

The Link

District 52 Website: www.kankakee-aa.org ~ Alcoholics Anonymous: www.aa.org ~ NIA 20: www.aa-nia.

From the Editor... Welcome to the September edition.... I can be reached at Dist52News@Outlook.com or at (815) 351-0111 with any comments or suggestions. Thanks!

Scott....

I Heard it at a Meeting – I just don't feel like I fit in.... – I think for many of us, this statement will likely resonate deeply in our souls....I know it does for me. I spent most of my life feeling like I didn't really fit in, almost no matter where I was or who I was with....Friends, Family, School, Jobs, Church, and on and on. In many situations I felt like I was on the outside looking in and wishing I knew how to be part of the group. Sometimes I just felt tolerated. Sometimes awkward. Sometimes just confused and wondering how other people seem to do the 'social' thing so naturally. I read a list a while ago that listed a number of traits or thoughts that generally hit home with people who have spent a lot of time feeling out of place and they really struck deep...some of these were;

- 1) Very few close friends, many acquaintances and friends of the moment. Resist attempts by others to become closer.
- 2) Cannot participate easily in small talk. Sit quietly and listen and try to not get noticed.
- 3) Feel much more comfortable in small groups or alone.
- 4) Wont ask for help...don't expect any even if did ask.
- 5) Always busy with projects or things that must get done to avoid having to interact.
- 6) Possess a deep fear of being rejected or abandoned....when accepted, just waiting for the hammer to fall.
- 7) Wonder what was wrong with me...or is everyone else crazy?

This is just a short list and as I wrote some of these, I starting thinking of others. In some ways, psychologists say this type of person develops many positive traits like independence, resilience, drive for self-improvement, etc... However, a very dark side is waiting for many of us, when we discover that alcohol temporarily reduces the 'square peg, round hole' feelings and falsely makes us feel like part of the club...or at least if we aren't, we don't care. I think in my case, this was a large factor in the unrestricted expansions of my disease into the monster it became. Eventually, near the end, I realized the truth that the alcohol lied to me about fitting in and, in fact, became the true reason later in life that I was not wanted and really didn't fit in with normal people. I became resigned that this would just be my life and it would consume me...until I found AA. There for the first time in a long time, I actually felt that I was where I belonged. More importantly, after a time, I realized it was actually true and not a trick. In some ways, this is the magic that has helped so many people since Bill and Bob realized that the only way to remain sober was to talk to and work with another alcoholic...and thereby remember how you fit in.

Thanks...and God Bless!

Carrying The Message...On Local Radio WKAN 1320 -

Personal anonymity is maintained!
8-10 minute segment.

Question and answer format.
We will do this every three months.

Schedule: Every third Month on the first Wednesday. Next one: October 7th at 8:00 AM.

Opportunity to Serve –The best way to get out of your own head is to serve others! District 52 has opportunities to serve and needs your help! District Board positions and support chairs available;

Come to the next District 52 meeting to see where you fit in!

Submissions, questions, suggestions, ideas call Scott O. (815) 351-0111 or email Dist52News@Outlook.com

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Meet 3rd Thursday of the month –Next: September 17 @ 6:30

Riverside Hospital Meeting Room (by cafeteria)

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Banyan Treatment Center – Volunteers needed to speak once or twice a month on Wednesday's at 6:00 PM (Please note Time Change). There continues to be a need for more women volunteers. 6 Months of sobriety is required to participate.

Please contact Adria with any questions at (815) 401-3847.

Big Books/12 & 12 Books: The district has a number of copies of the Big Book and the 12 Steps and 12 Traditions to provide to groups in need. Please contact Steve K or Sherri M or email the district webmaster at d52webmaster@gmail.com with requests.



2026 KANKAKEE AREA MINI-CONFERENCE
Presents:
Our Primary Purpose
November 7, 2026

AA GUEST SPEAKER *Michelle*
40+ years
DENVER, CO

ALANON GUEST SPEAKER *T.B.A.*

TICKETS: \$20 ea.
LUNCH & REFRESHMENTS INCLUDED

I Am Responsible
When anyone anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of help to always be there. And for that, I am responsible!

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION: Begins @ 8a
CONFERENCE: 9a-4p
♦ TICKET PRE-SALES AVAILABLE ♦
RAFFLE BASKETS
STEVE K • (815) 214-7063
RICHELLE • (815) 954-7995

Manteno Church of the Nazarene
698 N Locust St.
Manteno, IL 60950
For More Info | Gabriel H. 815/419-5159



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Or available on GV YouTube & aagrapevine.org/podcast

Grapevine Open AA Meeting
EVERY Wednesday - Noon EST
zoom meeting ID: 871 2036 8287
Password: 238047
Come Join! ALL are welcome!

alcoholicsanonymous_gv

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- Daily Spiritual Checklist



OUR PRIMARY PURPOSE?
STAY SOBER & CARRY THE MESSAGE

DISTRICT 52 NEEDS YOU!

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO CARRY THE MESSAGE. COME TO THE DISTRICT 52 MEETINGS TO JOIN THE DISTRICT'S EFFORTS TO CARRY THE MESSAGE OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS.

6:30 PM - THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
RIVERSIDE HOSPITAL CONFERENCE ROOM A

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New /Need Support Meetings: Please notify me if any of these meetings are in good shape and should be removed. Also if you know of meeting that need support, please let me know at dist52news@outlook.com.

Manteno:

- *New Hope Meeting.* Wednesday 8:00 PM at Christian Church of Manteno is in need of sober support. 401 E 3rd Street
- *Jolly Time Meeting* – Monday 7:00 PM at Veterans Home in Manteno. Meeting is in the Hall – Use North side entrance. Meeting is in need of support.

Kankakee:

- Raisin Hope – Monday at 5:30 PM at Kankakee Alano Club. Grapevine literature study meeting
- *Friday Night Open* – Friday 7:00 PM at Alano Club is in need of sober support.
- 3:30 PM Saturday Meeting – Saturday 3:30PM at Alano Club is in need of sober support.
- *Citadel Nursing Home* – Sunday at 3:00. New meeting starting June 8th. Citadel Nursing Home, 900 W River Place

Happy September Birthdays!!! Please send your sobriety birthday so we can recognize and celebrate your miracle!

Kris S 9/4/17

Monica T 9/4/21

Herb B 9/5/05

Aaron Taylor 9/7/19

Tara 9/13/21

Phil L 9/11/95

Josh O 9/12/16

Ray M 9/13/95

Cory 9/13/20

Ted M 9/20/84

Ron R 9/26/12

Kenneth S 9/26/19

Karl H 9/27/93

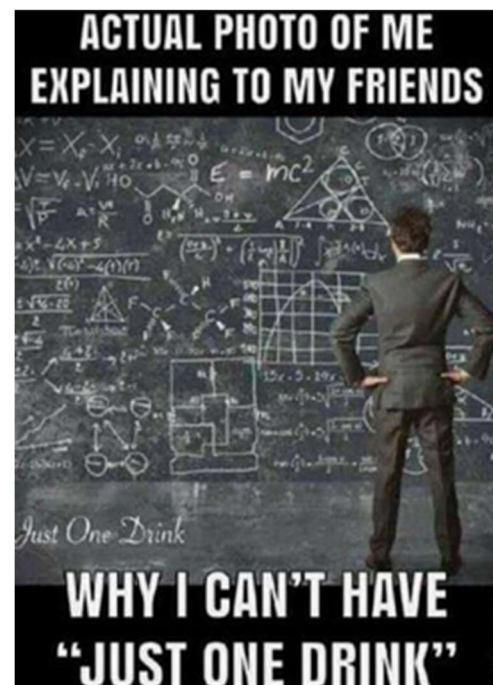
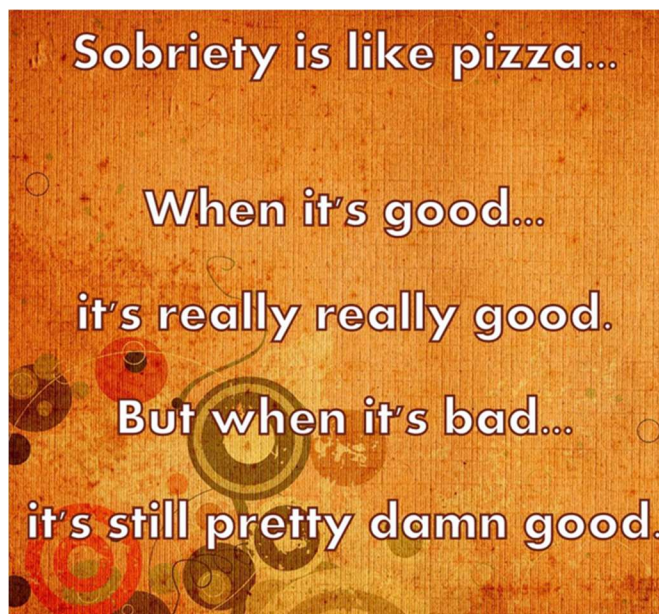
Bob L 9/28/03

Terry 9/20/20

Don K 9/21/01

Laurie A 11/5/12

Funnies!!!



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Inspiration...



Something to Think About:

You should not be afraid to try and fail...instead, you should be afraid to not try and remain the same.