

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS CHANGED MY LIFE

On Friday June 6, 1997 my life changed forever. With the grace of my higher power who I choose to call God the beginning of a new life filled my spirit. At the time, I had no idea what changes would enter my life. I received the message of AA in a detox in Queens called Faith Mission Alcohol Crisis Center. It was blind faith that placed me on this journey on which I still remain 22 years later.

My journey into AA began in the detox which became my rehab. Speakers came in from the fellowship and I wondered how did they get to do that. I asked one of the speakers and was told that it was called doing service. When I was released from the detox my homegroup put me to work immediately.

I became a greeter which was my first commitment. I set up chairs and made coffee, not realizing this was getting me outside of myself and learning to do things with others. I was introduced to service very early in recovery and learned about how AA works. Old timers took me to meetings (service below the group level). This is where I learned that all the entities report back to the groups.

My sponsor showed me service when she took me through the steps and traditions. I have learned that working with others through compassion applying the principles enhances my recovery as well as helping others.

Service has introduced me to people from all over Southeast New York and beyond. I have learned so much about the fellowship and the knowledge has allowed me to grow as a woman as well as be available as a sponsor, assist in my homegroup, and do service below the group to be able to bring information back to the group regarding what is happening and changes in AA as a whole.

Service allows me to be outgoing and share my experiences, strength and hope with others. By working on myself I have learned humility and continue to work on myself and advance the program. The idea of taking someone through the 12 & 12 and watching them grow and work on their recovery is the greatest gift given to me. I can't keep it unless I give it away.

To be able to stay sober one day at a time and live a sober life is something I am eternally grateful for. To no longer be consumed by the disease of alcoholism and to experience continually the freedom from bondage of self is a miracle.

To say that I am a truly grateful alcoholic sums up the emotions of how far I know God has brought me. I owe my life to God, the members of Alcoholics Anonymous, the program, and service. This process is definitely beyond my wildest dreams.

Veronica (Ronnie) L.
Old Park Slope Caton/ In the Garden

BUSINESS MEETING
3rd Saturday, 9:00AM
Holy Name Church
245 Prospect Park W

THE PRINCIPLES CORNER

5th Tradition

It is an honor and a privilege to be writing for the Brooklyn Intergroup newsletter! I'm a grateful alcoholic who has been sober for a little over 23 years. My home group is the Old Park Slope Caton Group of AA, where I learned the importance of tradition five. Each group has but one primary purpose to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers, no multitasking here! However, I can't keep it unless I give it away.

My first experience with this tradition as a newcomer was a confusing one. At one particular business meeting, a member of my home group suggested posting job listings on the secretary's board. As an unemployed member of AA, I thought that this was a great idea, that my home group could do so many things for people in need. I raised my hand high in total agreement with this proposal. Before I could be called upon, another member with substantial sobriety time stated that Tradition Five was alive and well. He explained that we have but one primary purpose and as an AA group, we need to stick to it to remain effective. He said we are in the business of saving alcoholics one at a time and we ought not divert from that. For whatever reason, I understood exactly what that old timer meant.

After an extensive conversation with my sponsor, he advised me not to cure cancer or save the whales, but to share my experience, strength, and hope so I could help save others, plain and simple. There is no doubt in my mind, that sick and suffering alcoholics need AA groups to find a solution to their fatal malady. I'm so grateful for Brooklyn Intergroup and AA Intergroups around the world for their primary purpose of directing us to groups and meetings. I love each and every one of you.

Mel R.
SENY Intergroup
Committee Chairperson

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE FOLLOWING GROUPS:

Bedford Group
Bleeding Deacons
Clinton Carroll Morning Meeting
Gateway Group
High Noon at One
Hilltop Group
It Can Be Done
Once Again
One Flight Up
Our Solution

Pitkin Group
Sheeps by the Bay
Shore Road Discussion Group
Simply Saturday
Spring Creek Group
Step by Step Group
Sunrise Group
Twelve to Life
Women Seeking Solutions
Young People in Recovery

BROOKLYN INTERGROUP, PO BOX 21022, BROOKLYN NY, 11202

FROM THE BIG CHAIR

The second annual Dr Bob-e-cue was held on Saturday June 9th, 2019.

It was a very beautiful experience. The weather was perfect, sunny, cool and crisp. Volunteers arrived at the BBQ site in Fort Tilden bright and early to set up. People from all over Brooklyn and some from Queens began to arrive. It was the beginning of a great day!

Our first meeting was held in the late morning, the topic was gratitude, which was not a difficult topic as we sat in the Great Outdoors surrounded by the smell of the ocean, the sand and the food cooking on the grill. We had two more meetings that day; we sat in a big circle on beach chairs, blankets and on the grass in the glorious sunshine.

Food abounded all day: Burgers, franks, chicken wings, salads, beans, chips and just about every other BBQ accompaniment you can name. As the day progressed many more people came and went, many wandered off to the beach or to the boardwalk, some went to a small playhouse and art display down the road. Frisbees flew, bubbles were blown and even a little basketball was played.

Simply said it was a full day of food, fun, fellowship and, of course, meetings. There was a huge amount of work put into this event! I want to thank the Events Committee and all the many people who worked very hard to make this celebration of Dr. Bob's Birthday, the birth of A.A., a huge success! Till next year!

**In service,
Mike B.**

BIG HELPLINE

Help us answer calls for BIG. We receive calls from individuals who may have a drinking problem, medical professionals looking for info and family members looking for info & support. We are often the caller's first contact with A.A. Our goal is to maintain 24 hour LIVE telephone support. Calls are forwarded automatically to your cell or landline. Your anonymity is protected. 1 year continuous sobriety, six month commitment.

SHIFTS: 7:00AM-12:00PM, 12:00PM-5:00PM, 5:00PM-10:00PM, 10:00PM-7:00AM

WE AGNOSTICS

W Q T I H V M P J P I H S W O L L E F P D I C
T J L N E E V I S U L C N I T R H C L B N M C
H F A E D I P E P E B W S E V L E S R U O P P
K U D D H M Y C H G N H C O M M E N C E A O H
D I N D I V I D U A L S I R T S R I M U W S I
W L M S Z X K U R G P B F Q L C F M U H C S L
I Q W P O R T N E M A R E P M E T Z G T S I O
R V H I M Y D E T P E C C A A S R F Y W M B S
T C A R I S E S W B U I L T S P D Y C O P L O
N I J I C O M P R E H E N D D X I B H R U E P
G F R T P J W S S E R P M I C C Z R Z G C N H
B A X U T B U O D O K S E H C A O R P P A Z Y
H J J A O Q T C I F F B S R G H Y E Q U X R U
I M F L D D Y P C A M B R O A D Y A E L V F L
C Y S I J R U D U X H V A J N O I T S E U Q E
N N K D H E K R D D T L Y U L I N X C B M L T



ACCEPTED
APPROACHES
ARISES
BROAD
BUILT

COMMENCE
COMPREHEND
DOUBT
FELLOWSHIP
GROWTH

IDEA
IMPOSSIBLE
IMPRESS
INCLUSIVE
INDIVIDUALS

OURSELVES
PHILOSOPHY
QUESTION
SPIRITUAL
TEMPERAMENT