



Monroe Area A.A. Intergroup

Embracing Sobriety

Volume 9 Issue 2 February 2020

Step 2 “ Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.”

2th Tradition “ For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.”

2th Promise “We will not regret the past nor wish to shut the door on it.”

Coming Events

Wednesday Night Resentment 9th Anniversary 3-4-2020

St. Anne Church 2420 N. Dixie Hwy., Monroe

Doors open @ 4 Dinner @ 5 Speaker Ryan O. @ 6

March Roundup 2020 3-13—3-15

Crowne Plaza Detroit 2 Washington Boulevard Detroit, Mi. 48226 (866) -710-7531

Doors open @ 3pm Friday 3-13-2020 Panels, Speakers, Archives, Tradition Skit,

Hospitality rooms, Hotel Reservation use “Group Code

**24 Hour Hotline
(734) 240-4844**

Convention dates July 2-5 2020

Advance registration Deadline : 3-15- 2020

Registration Opens 9-9-2019

Email: ICAA@xpressreg.net



The Monroe Area Intergroup currently meets on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm at the United Way Building, 216 Monroe Street, Monroe, MI. Attendance is encouraged and open to all AA members.
4/9/20 5/14/20 6/11/20 7/9/20

If you have an Event or a story you would like printed in the newsletter. Need help with flyers? Please call or text Jeff A. @ 734-636-6545

Lets Ask Bill W. Q&A #8

Q. What about the Alcoholic who says he cannot possibly believe in God?

A. A great many of them come to A.A. and they say that they are trapped. By this they mean that we have convinced them that they are fatally ill, yet they cannot accept a belief in God and His grace as a means of recovery. Happily this does not prove to be an impossible dilemma at all. We simply suggest that the newcomers take an easy stance and an open mind; that he proceeds to practice those parts of the Twelve Steps that anyone's common sense would readily recommend. He can certainly admit that he is an alcoholic; that he ought to make a moral inventory; that he ought to discuss his defects with another person; that he should make restitution for harms done; and that he can be helpful to other alcoholics.

We emphasize the 'open mind,' that at least he should admit that there might be a 'Higher Power.' He can certainly admit that he is not God, nor is mankind in general. If he wishes he could place his own dependence upon his own A.A. group. That group is certainly a "Higher Power," so far as recovery from alcoholism is concerned. If these reasonable conditions are met, he then finds himself released from the compulsion to drink; he discovers that his motivations have been changed far out of proportion to anything that could have been achieved by a simple association with us or by any practice of a little more honesty, humility, tolerance, and helpfulness. Little by little he becomes aware that a "Higher Power" is indeed at work. In a matter of months, or at least in a year or two, he is talking freely about God as he understands Him. He has received the gift of God's grace - and he knows it. (N.C.C.A., Blue Book, Vol.12, 1960)

Monroe Area A.A. Intergroup Archives

Contains: Minutes of Intergroup meetings, Newsletters, Event Flyers from 1995 to 1998, & 2012 to 2018 older Literature, lots more & growing. If you would like to have it at your event contact Jeff A. or call the hotline at 734-240-4844

**New Life New Recovery O/D Is now @
First United Methodist Church 312 Harrison St.
Monroe**

Sunday 3pm Monday 6pm



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On Cultivating Tolerance by Dr. Bob S.

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During nine years in AA, I have observed that those who follow the Alcoholics Anonymous program with the greatest earnestness and zeal not only maintain sobriety but often acquire finer characteristics and attitudes as well. One of these is tolerance.

Tolerance expresses itself in a variety of ways: in kindness and consideration toward the man or woman who is just beginning the march along the spiritual path; in the understanding of those who perhaps have been less fortunate in education advantages; and in sympathy toward those whose religious ideas may seem to be at great variance with our own.

I am reminded in this connection of the picture of a hub with its radiating spokes. We all start at the outer circumference and approach our destination by one of many routes. To say that one spoke is much better than all the other spokes is true only in the sense of its being best suited to you as an individual. Human nature is such that without some degree of tolerance, each one of us might be inclined to believe that we have found the best or perhaps the shortest spoke. Without some tolerance, we might tend to become a bit smug or superior - which, of course, is not helpful to the person we are trying to help and may be quite painful or obnoxious to others. No one of us wishes to do anything that might act as a deterrent to the advancement of another - and a patronizing attitude can readily slow up this process.

Tolerance furnishes, as a by-product, a greater freedom from the tendency to cling to preconceived ideas and stubbornly adhered-to opinions. In other words, it often promotes an open-mindedness that is vastly important - is, in fact, a prerequisite to the successful termination of any line of search, whether it be scientific or spiritual.

These, then, are a few of the reasons why an attempt to acquire tolerance should be made by each one of us.

A new Recovery Center

St. Joseph Center of Hope A Crisis Intervention Center

222 Colonial Dr. off of n. Macomb Monroe OPEN 24 HOURS

For more information call (734) 357-8880 No insurance needed

Wednesday Night Meeting

Navarre Fireside C/D/B Wednesday 8:00 pm

Touchstone Recovery House 57 Navarre St. Monroe.

Thursday Night Open at Grace

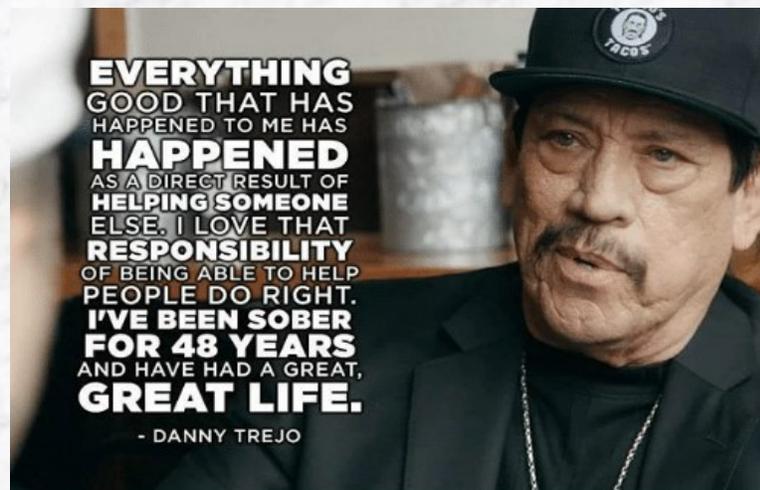
Thursday Night Speakers

2-13 Don B., 2-20 Eric S.,

2-27 Maxine S., 3-5 Mark M.,

3-12 Your name here, 3-19 Christy R.,

3-26 Eric S.



Danny Trejo hasn't had a drink or taken an illegal drug since Richard Nixon was in the White House and "Midnight Cowboy" was in theaters. The "Machete" actor, who became a heroin addict as a teenager, has been sober for 51 years. He worked for a time as a drug counselor — a role that helped lead him to a most unexpected career as a prolific character actor. Now 75, Trejo was 24 in 1969 when he began attending AA meetings while serving time in San Quentin State Prison in California. He was busted trying to sell heroin to an undercover cop. It wasn't his first time behind bars. He spent most of late teens and early 20s in and out of jail. The son of Mexican immigrants, Trejo grew up in Los Angeles and was only 8 years old when he first smoked weed with an uncle. By 12, he was drinking. Two years later, he started shooting heroin. He was quickly hooked and began dealing the drug. Trejo attended his first 12 step meeting when he was 15. "They tell you if you leave [Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous], you will die, go insane or go to jail," Trejo says. "And I proved that right. Every time I left, I went to jail."

Something clicked for Trejo one fateful day when a former inmate came to San Quentin to talk about his recovery. "That guy saved my life," Trejo says. "He said, 'Why don't you join us? Before you do anything, just join us. Give it a try. What do you have to lose?' It was kind of like an awakening. So when I got out of the joint, I went back to meetings." Trejo immersed himself in the recovery community while working odd jobs, eventually becoming a drug counselor. He never had dreams of being an actor. He was 16 years sober when a young production assistant who was struggling to stay clean got Trejo a job as an extra on a film. The movie was 1985's "Runaway Train," an action-adventure vehicle starring Eric Roberts and Jon Voight. One of the screenwriters, Eddie Bunker, happened to be a former inmate whom Trejo knew from his final in carceration. Remembering that Trejo was a champion boxer in prison, Bunker asked him to train Roberts for his fight scenes. Director Andrei Konchalovsky went on to offer him a role as a boxer who spars with Roberts. "All of a sudden everybody started calling me 'Mr. Trejo,'" he remembers with a smile. "I got my hair done; I got to wear makeup." Since "Runaway Train," Trejo has become one of Hollywood's most prolific character actors, with more than 300 credits (and counting) across television and film. He has embraced the spirit of giving back and helping others as means of maintaining his own sobriety.

"Everything good that has happened to me has happened as a direct result of helping someone else — everything," he says. "That's the way I live my life."

In addition to acting, Trejo has become an entrepreneur with the launch of a string of Los Angeles-area restaurants: Trejo's Tacos in 2016, followed by Trejo's Cantina and Trejo's Coffee & Donuts. No matter how busy he gets, he stays close to the recovery community. He regularly attends and speaks at 12-step meetings. "I honestly believe this sobriety and being clean depends on your support system," Trejo says. "You've got this system of people around you that want you to stay clean and sober. If I'm driving down the street and I'm with somebody clean and sober and I say, 'God, man, I sure could go for a joint right now or a beer,' this guy will say, 'Hey, wait a minute. ... Let's go to a meeting.' ... I surround myself with people that are clean and sober." It's been decades since Trejo has had a craving to drink or get high. But if the thought does pop into his head one day, he knows all he has to do is remember the past. "When I think about drugs ... I think about having to shower with 50 men in prison," Trejo says. "I don't want to do that anymore. I don't want somebody saying, 'Hey, bend over and spread 'em.' That's what drugs mean to me."

Attendees: Intergroup meeting Thursday, January 12, 2019

Tina F- Chairman, Carol B – Treasurer, Paula S – Secretary, Holly S – Vice Chairman, Dave O – Corrections Committee, Val V – Events Committee, Jerry G – Hotline, Dominic-Workshop, Carol D—GSR,

Marlene B—GSR

Tina F. opened the meeting at 6:05 pm with the Serenity Prayer

Secretary's Minutes of December, 2019 Meeting:

Motion to accept by Dave O; seconded by Jeff A.: motion passed.

Treasurer's November, 2019 Report:

Carol B said Bal of 565.15 Prudent Reserve 500.00 Dave O. made a motion Jeff a.. seconded

Workshop Committee:

Dominic reported next Workshop will be Sat. Feb. 15th at Grace Lutheran Church starts at 8:00 AM. Carol B made motion Dave O seconded

AA Hotline:

Jerry G reported 30 calls. He gave Carol B phone bill. Dominic C. made motion Dave O seconded

Corrections Committee: Dave O reported got 2 more Men approved they will take safety class 1/17. Carol D. made motion Dominic C seconded

Website Report:

Carol B. said up to date. Val V made a motion Holly S seconded

Newsletter:

Jeff A distributed the January Newsletter. He put a couple new meetings in Newsletter, he prints the Sunday before Intergroup meeting. Carol D made motion Dave O seconded

Outreach / Shut- In Committee: Leo R was absent. Carol B. reported card being sent to Ron Reese. Carol D made motion Jerry G seconded.

Sobriety Birthdays

2-4 Rob K. 2 years 2-7 Greg H. 25 years

2-9 Esther R. 48 years, 2-15 Subodh 38 years

3-1 Becca T 10 years, 3-1 Stacy P. 7years

Alcoholics for Christ O/W

Wednesday 1:30 pm

River Raisin Worship Center

111 East Front Street, Monroe

Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

Outreach/Shut-in Committee:

Leo R was absent. Carol B. reported card being sent to Ron Reese. Carol D made motion Jerry G seconded.

Archive Committee:

Jeff A reported that people were looking at display at New Year's Party. Dominic C let Jeff know he has a copy of Bill W. last talk from night Dr. Bob passed. Carol D made motion Dominic C seconded.

MonCYPAA: Logan T was absent

Events Committee:

Val V reported turnout for New Years was good 65 people. Dave O gave New Year's Eve breakdown, see attached copy. Dave O suggested we do New Year's Eve party a week early next year, motion passed. Discussion about Spring Fling. Val V will start planning. Paula S made motion Dave O seconded .

NEW BUSINESS:

Dave O reported Harbor Light meetings are now Closed Meetings, must get approved. We will be voting for Intergroup Chairs Feb. Jeff A made a motion Holy S seconded. We will be voting for Intergroup Chairs Feb

Tina F. made a motion to close the meeting at 6:50 pm; seconded by Dave O.: Motion passed.



R.I.P.

Gary Moore Musician 2-6-2011 Skid Row/Thin Lizzy
age 58 Heart attack while intoxicated on Alcohol.

Billy Connolly Musician 2-10-1997 "The Sweet" age 52
Kidney failure

Websites of interest

www.monroea.org

www.thursdayaspeakers.com Thursday night Monroe speaker meeting

Facebook Groups these are private groups, only group members can see your posts, Friends of Bill and Bob, Alcoholics Anonymous, Grateful Addicts in Recovery, RecoverySpeakers.com.

www.silkworth.net Hours of cool & interesting stuff. Some free Joe & Charlie tapes, Talks by Bill & Bob.