

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Looking for Service Work? The District has positions available. For information come to the District Meetings held the third Monday of every month located at New Guilford Brethren in Christ Church, 1575 Mont Alto Rd., Chambersburg, PA 17202. Meeting time is 7pm to 8pm. You can also visit our website at www.d35pa-aa.org and view the Service Positions page.

ANNIVERSARIES

THE FAIRFIELD GROUP

St. John Lutheran Church, 13 E. Main St., Fairfield PA
8:00PM the last Wednesday of the month OA

JUNE

Ross – 38 years
Kathy – 30 years
John – 10 years

JULY

Rick – 30 years
John – 18 years

AUGUST

Sara – 36 years
John – 33 years

NEW OXFORD, READ THIS BOOK

St. Paul's United Church, 20 South Peter Street, New Oxford, PA
7:15PM the last Wednesday of the month OA

JULY

Lydia – 7 years

AUGUST

Keith – 7 years

CHAMBERSBURG, BIG BOOK MEETING

Community Center, 145 E. King St. in Room C-3, Chambersburg, PA
7:00PM the last Sunday of the month OA

JUNE

Dallas – 8 years

CHAMBERSBURG, CHAMBERSBURG GROUP

437 Wolf Ave, Chambersburg, PA
8:00PM the last Friday of the month

JUNE

Todd – 5 years
Marion – 7 years

Statement Of Purpose

District 35 Newsletter "The Communicator" is published to foster unity and facilitate communication among AA members and groups. The Communicator aims to be instrumental in carrying the AA message. This quarterly newsletter seeks to publish groups histories, anniversaries and functions with the purpose of bringing us all together. In the future we will include personal stories of experience, strength and hope. Material will be reviewed by a committee member of The Communicator. Nothing published by The Communicator should be thought of as a statement of District 35 or AA policy.



One Lay's Potato Chip by Darcy

When I was a young child, Lay's Potato Chips introduced the slogan "Nobody can eat just one." Being a strong-willed child, I thought to myself, "I can." At a backyard cookout I quietly walked over to the bowl of Lay's potato chips, picked out the most perfect chip I could find, popped it into my mouth, and ate it. I didn't eat another one for more than 30 years. It wasn't a feat I ever told anyone about. I did it for the satisfaction of knowing that I could.

When I got to the point in my life when I started to admit to myself that alcohol was controlling me and not the other way around, I couldn't understand why I couldn't stop drinking like I had stopped eating potato chips. Why could I go for 30 years without a potato chip, but could barely go 30 obsessed, white-knuckled days without a drink? I had demonstrated self-control over potato chips. Why couldn't I muster the will power to banish alcohol from my life?

Alcohol is cunning, baffling, powerful. Potato chips are not. Without help, alcohol is too much for us. Potato chips are not.

Alcoholism is a spiritual problem at least as much as it is a physical addiction. Sobriety does not come about as the result of our strength of mind or personal determination. Sobriety comes and stays-as the result of a spiritual awakening. There are many ways to conceptualize this. But perhaps the simplest way to think about it is that the changes which take place in us when we commit to a 12-Step program make us useful to our Higher Power and that makes us useful to our fellow human beings. Sobriety leads us into a life with meaning. Imagine that.

I have gone back to eating potato chips. After 30 years I couldn't think of a reason not to. But I have not gone back to drinking. After more than 25 years of sobriety I can't think of a single reason why I would want to want to.