

The DIALOG



A PUBLICATION OF THE DALLAS INTERGROUP ASSOCIATION (est. 1947)

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Welcome to the DIALOG — your newsletter for the Dallas Intergroup Association

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Memorial Day Events In Memoriam

SSgt Damon Taylor a member of the Dallas North Tuesday night Men's Group, showed us all what a true warrior looks like. When he first joined our group, Damon said the one thing he wanted most of all, was to get his one year chip. At about 6 months into sobriety he began to get severe blinding headaches. His diagnosis was Glioblastoma, a rare form of brain cancer, acquired on the battlefield in Iraq.

SSgt Damon Taylor was told he had 2 months to live. However, Damon was determined and fought back. On birthday night, a packed house of family and friends there was many a tear shed. We saw the man, SSgt Damon Taylor accomplish his mission. It was a proud moment for his family and those of us who loved him. He showed us all how to live. Living one day at a time. With 1 year and 6 months of sobriety he passed on into the loving arms of God and we will never forget him.



Please join us May 31 and the members of Carry the Load, 22KILL, IW-DFW and Team SSgt Damon Taylor as we hit the Katy Trail to raise awareness for Memorial Day as a day of remembrance for those that made the ultimate sacrifice.

JOIN TEAM DAMON TAYLOR TODAY! www.carrythe.load.org/goto/TeamDamon

35th Annual Gathering of Eagles Conference

The best of national A.A. circuit speakers and those knowledgeable with the history of A.A. were, and still are, invited to the conferences each year. It has become a nationally attended conference sprinkled with old timers approaching 60 years sober.

The "Gathering" has continued under the guidance of a select planning committee familiar with its flavor, history and purpose. The conference is held every year during the **Memorial Day weekend in Dallas, Texas.**

<https://www.dallasgatheringofeagles.org>

Special points of interest:

- Groups Opening Up
- Thoughts from one of our own...
- Motorcycles and a Happy Place.
- Data Processing gone wrong.
- Clubs that are almost normal.

A son asked his dad, "Dad, what's an alcoholic?"

The dad replied, "Well, son, you see those four trees? An alcoholic would see eight."
The son replied, "But Dad, I only see two."



Me: My name is Matt, and I'm an alcoholic.

AAA: This is AAA, not AA.

Me: Yeah, I was just explaining how my car got in the lake.

What's the difference between an alcoholic and a stoner?

The alcoholic will run the stop sign. The stoner will wait for it to turn green.



“Having learned from my own journey and watching the pathways others have taken toward recovery, I have concluded”...

Welcome to the **DIA**log

Steps 6 and 7

Having prepared a 4th Step grievance(s), extrapolated columns necessarily, and shared all with a confidant, NOW WHAT?!

These four steps are actually one continues process where we honestly face our Defects of Character (Behaviors we find inappropriate & injurious to ourselves and others) and address a solution.

Some of our Defects may be as simple as our habit of, say, kicking dogs. A friend may tell us, ‘STOP kicking defenseless innocent dogs for no apparent reason,’ we reflect and say to ourselves, ‘You’re Right, I Should Stop Kicking Dogs,’ and, we just stop.

But, what about something as



“No. I’ve never tried A.A. But if it’s got alcohol in it I am sure I’d like it.”

ingrained as ‘LYING?’ Some of us cannot at times tell the true from the false. Somewhere, deep inside, we have been able to give ourselves permission to ‘normalize’ the behavior of Lying; THIS, is

something where only repetitive prayer in the face of compulsion will bring about the desired change and ultimate relief.

Once we are aware of ‘ALL’ our defects and are entirely ready to be rid of them root & branch, can we separate what we can do for ourselves from what only a Higher Power may relieve.

From Ric C

We Do Not Process Data Correctly

The BIG BOOK, in the Doctor’s Opinion & elsewhere, along with ‘As Bill Sees It,’ and countless other sources, talk about the Presentation of alcoholic behavior as being both medical (allergy) & physical (behavioral) with references to there being that inexpiable mind-disconnect.

Having learned from my own journey and watching the pathways others have taken toward recovery, I have concluded that just as ‘we’ have an allergy where alcohol is concerned, it would also seem we also have a unique inability to process information (data) correctly.

Two cars parked at an intersection, stopped side-by-side for a red light, one driver ‘normal’ and the other, one of ‘us.’ One driver sits patiently accepting it is time for other drivers to pass and the other gnashes their teeth at being detained from progress – Guess which is which. This syndrome is

why, more often than not, the POLICE have to explain the error of our thinking in the light of reality vs our ‘best’ intentions.

It sometimes seems that those who have given themselves to the ‘Fellowship’ and all that entails, gathering a host of friends and finding meaning in their lives are less likely to agonize about alcohol and are less likely to relapse.

That we acquire self-knowledge appears to be of no avail; it’s what we do with that information and how we therefore find ourselves living a new life, a life where alcohol isn’t important because it has been replaced with peace.



“Whenever I have a problem, I ask myself, ‘How would a grownup handle it?’”

From Ric C

A Letter From Bill Wilson...

Dear Russ,

Lord's Prayer At A.A. Meetings April 14, 1959

Am right sorry for my delay in answering. Lois and I were a long time out of the country and this was followed by an attack of the marathon type of flu that has been around here in New York. We are okay now, however, but I did want to explain my delay.

Now about the business of adding the Lord's Prayer to each A.A. meeting.

This practice probably came from the Oxford Groups who were influential in the early days of A.A. You have probably noted in AA. Comes of Age what the connection of these people in A.A. really was. I think saying the Lord's Prayer was a custom of theirs following the close of each meeting. Therefore it quite easily got shifted into a general custom among us.

Of course there will always be those who seem to be offended by the introduction of any prayer whatever into an ordinary A.A. gathering. Also, it is sometimes complained that the Lord's Prayer is a Christian document. Nevertheless this Prayer is of such widespread use and recognition that the arguments of its Christian origin seems to be a little farfetched. It is also true that most A.A.s believe in some kind of God and that communication and strength is obtainable through His grace. Since this is the general consensus it seems only right that at least the Serenity Prayer and the Lord's Prayer be used in connection with our meetings. It does not seem necessary to defer to the feelings of our agnostic and atheist newcomers to the extent of completely hiding our light under a bushel.

However, around here, the leader of the meeting usually asks those to join him in the Lord's Prayer who feel that they would care to do so. The worst that happens to the objectors is that they have to listen to it. This is doubtless a salutary exercise in tolerance at their stage of progress.

So that's the sum of the Lord's Prayer business as I recall it. Your letter made me wonder in just what connection you raise the question.

Meanwhile, please know just how much Lois and I treasure the friendship of you both. May Providence let our paths presently cross one of these days.

Devotedly yours,

Bill Wilson

WGW/ni Mr. Russ



**...”Of course
there will always
be those who
seem to be
offended”...**



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Welcome to the
DIAlog



CALLING ALL WRITERS...

Send us your EXPERIENCES of Unity, Recovery, and Service.

Send us your HOME GROUP HISTORY

Tell us about EVENTS coming up at your HOME GROUP

Email
DIAlog@aadallas.org

AA Motorcycle Riders Find a Happy Place

* Most any motorcyclist will confirm that riding takes them to a happy place. Kawashima's study even showed that riding motorcycles takes a person to a higher state of consciousness.

*** Benefits Of Riding**

- Healthier, stronger knees and thighs
- Improved core strength.
- Increased insulin sensitivity
- Increased calorie burning
- Improved neck strength
- Aerobic benefit boosts blood flow
- Better mental outlook



We Need Organizers for Weekend Rides and Sponsors.

If you have any experience putting one together, contact us @ theleftseat@gmail.com

**Google said so*

Happy Days are Here Again!

A sampling of some we know about that are meeting face to face, listed below:

Men's Group (Mafia) @ Dallas North - parking lot, Tues. 7:30pm

Lewisville Group—MO

Richardson — MO

Lake Highlands—MO

Aquarius—MO

Terrell Group—MO

McKinney Group—MO

Frisco Group — MO

Preston Group — MR

Dallas North - MRD

Whiskey and Milk—MO

Irving Group—MO

ODAAT—MO

Carrollton Group—MO

Clean Air Dallas—MO

Big Book Rockwall-MO

Grapevine Unity Group-MO

Addison Group—MO

Mask Optional = MO
Mask Required = MR
Mask Req'd. 6 Ft Distancing = MRD



Quotes

My story can be summed up this way --- 'I went to a party when I was 17, and the next thing I knew, I was forty-one!'

When I got to A.A., it wasn't whether or not I believed in God that caused me problems with the steps—it was what I believed ABOUT God.

