

West Suburban Fellowship Club

"Once we have placed the key of willingness in the lock and have the door ever so slightly open, we find that we can always open it some more. Though self-will may slam it shut again, as it frequently does, I will always respond the moment we again pick up the key of willingness." Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, Page 35

Coming into the rooms of AA, I had a particular brand of willingness called *Desperation™*, and it meant I was so sick, tired and scared that I would do just about anything I was told if it meant I would stop feeling that way. As things got better, my willingness would develop into either the cheap knock-off brand called *Convenience™* or the long lasting brand *Faith™*. Having taken a few trips in and out of the rooms, something I do not actively recommend, I found the *Convenience™* brand was fleeting and unreliable. I would be willing only if it were convenient, because things weren't so bad anymore. Why would I need to work so hard, since I'm already feeling so much better? This, of course, let the door of relapse slowly creak wide open and I was more than willing to blindly walk back into old habits.

When my willingness was more rooted in belief that this program works, the brand *Faith™* became the more reliable companion to my recovery. Today, I don't work the program because I'm desperate to stop feeling so awful and alone. I work the program because I know that it works and I enjoy the life it has provided for me. The end goal for me isn't to just get the heat off or make things "better". My goals focus more on the "long game", where things keep improving. Life is a journey, not a destination. Why should I treat the program which has improved my life so dramatically any differently?

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE AREA

Northern Illinois Area 20 2018 Spring Assembly Conference—March 23rd-25th, at Hyatt Regency Schaumburg, 1800 E. Golf Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60173

ANNIVERSARIES

Neil H—1 Year
Laura J—2 Years
Jack A—3 Years
Chris M—4 Years
Carolyn F—6 Years
Mary K—8 Years
Jeff K—10 Years
Bob B—25 Years
Mark H—27 Years
Sue D—29 Years
Murray C—30 Years
Larry M—33 Years
Lag G—35 Years

213

Years Of Sobriety

*Not a member?
There's no better time like
now to join!
Help keep the doors open
for the next alcoholic.*

This Month in AA History

March 1st, 1941—Jack Alexander's Saturday Evening Post article was published and membership jumped from 2,000 to 8,000 by year's end.

March 10th, 1944—New York Intergroup was established.

March 31st, 1947—1st AA group formed in London, England.

Newsletter Editor Wanted!!

WSFC is looking for a new Newsletter Editor to start in May 2018.

Please send an email to:

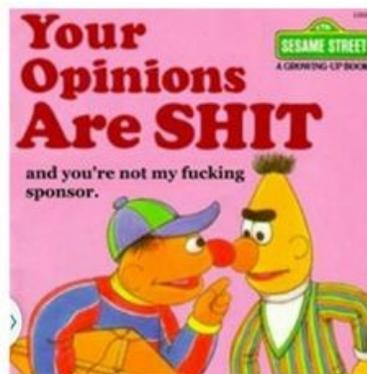
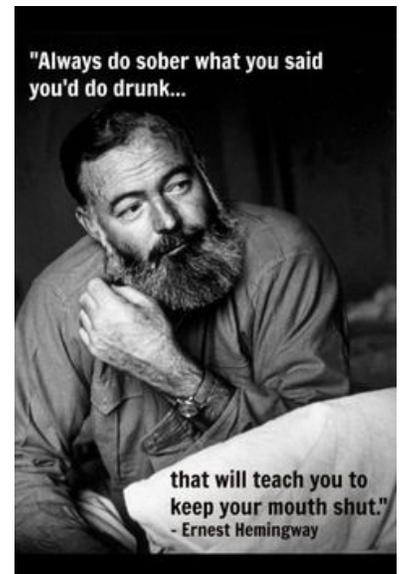
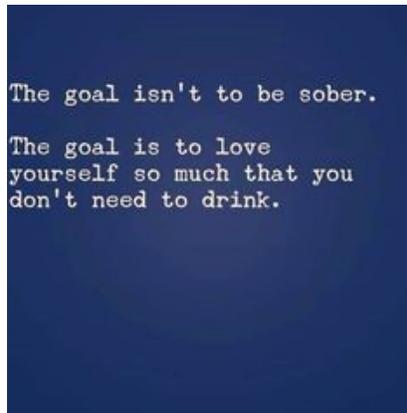
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Will Return Next Month!!!

Peg's Place

This is a special section dedicated to the memory of Peg, who knew laughter was a vital part of a sober life.



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