

# EL FAROLITO

Official Newsletter of New Mexico Area 46 Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous

#### **OFFICERS**

# Delegate

ou may have noticed that I didn't have an article in the June issue of *El Farolito*. I'm a little embarrassed to admit that I was somewhat overwhelmed as I prepared to depart for the General Service Conference in May and I simply missed the deadline. I humbly apologize for the oversight.

The General Service Conference was an incredible experience for me personally. Much more importantly, however, there were many decisions made by the Conference that affect our Fellowship. Also, during the Conference, there were many reports on the activities of our General Service Board, A.A. World Services, the General Service Office, and AA Grapevine, Inc. I would love to come

to your community to give a report on what decisions were made and the key points from the board and office reports. I'm happy to answer questions and this is a great opportunity for discussions. Many DCMs have scheduled a delegate report on behalf of the members in their districts – I still have plenty of days available for those who haven't. My calendar is online at *nm-aa.org/trusted-servants/delegate*.

I had a fantastic time at the Area 46 State Convention in Santa Fe! Thank you to District 2 and the Convention Committee. You all did a phenomenal job! I gave my first report, back at the Convention – thank you to all who attended the delegate report!

I'm looking forward to attending

the New Mexico Spanish Convention on July 5 – 7 in Albuquerque hosted by District 17. I love going to this convention and hearing my Spanish-speaking brothers and sisters share their experience, strength and hope. And, even though I can't speak Spanish, I have always been made to feel very welcomed. Plus, listening to our talented interpreters helps me appreciate what our Spanish-speakers experience when they attend English events. I'd like to encourage my English-speaking friends to join me in attending this convention.

I hope to see you at the New Mexico A.A. Service Forum on July 20!

Your very grateful servant, Teresa J., Area 46 Delegate

# Delegada

s posible que haya notado que no tenía un artículo en la edición de junio de *El Farolito*. Estoy un poco avergonzado de admitir que estaba algo abrumado mientras me preparaba para salir a la Conferencia de servicios generales en mayo y simplemente perdí la fecha límite. Humildemente pido disculpas por el descuido.

La Conferencia de Servicios Generales fue una experiencia increíble para mí personalmente. Mucho más importante, sin embargo, había mu-

## **ATTENTION!**

The *El Farolito* address has changed! Send mail to:

P.O. Box 1242, Taos, NM 87571

chas decisiones adoptadas por la Conferencia que afectan a nuestra comunidad. También, durante la Conferencia, hubo muchos informes sobre las actividades de nuestra Junta de Servicios Generales, A.A. World Services, la Oficina de Servicios Generales y AA Grapevine, Inc., Me encantaría venir a tu comunidad a dar un informe sobre las decisiones que se tomaron y los puntos clave de la junta y de la oficina de informes. Me complace responder a las preguntas y esta es una gran oportunidad para las discusiones. Muchos MCDs han programado un delegado informe en nombre de los miembros en sus distritos - todavía tengo un montón de días disponibles para aquellos que no la tienen. Mi calendario está en línea en nm-aa.org/trusted-servants/delegate.

¡Tuve un tiempo fantástico en el Área 46 Convención Estatal en Santa Fe! Gracias al Distrito 2 y al Comité de la Convención. ¡Ustedes hicieron un trabajo fenomenal! Di mi primer informe en la Convención – ¡gracias a todos los que asistieron al informe delegado!

Estoy deseando asistir al Convención Estatal de Nuevo México el 5 de julio - 7 de Albuquerque organizada por Distrito 17. Me encanta ir a esta Convención y escuchar a

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# Alternate Delegate

Many thanks to District 2 for all their hard work and preparation for our 2019 State Convention June 7-9. What a spectacular event it was. State conventions are no easy project, and District 2 deserves our thanks and gratitude for their diligent work. Thank you District 2!

In May, I hosted a weekend Traditions Workshop. It was a wonderful day and a half event, and we covered all 12 Traditions. June had the State Convention, and the start of the AA 201 Conference Service Structure Workshop. We also continued with the NMAA Service Forum Guidelines sub-committee and the NMAA Service Forum general committee meetings.

Our Delegate Teresa J. has begun Delegate reports around the state. Two districts had their Delegate's report in June – District 4 on June 15, and District 18 on June 22. Both requested the AA 201 Conference Service Structure workshop. July will see Districts 11, 12 and 13. August has Districts 14 and 6 scheduled. Please contact Teresa to schedule your Delegate's Report, and if you would also like the AA 201 Conference Service Structure workshop, please let Teresa know that as well. It is very informative and is designed as a lead into the Delegate's Report.

The New Mexico AA Service Forum (NMAASF) will be held July 20 at St Thomas Aquinas Church in Rio Rancho. Planning continues. As we get closer, the excitement builds. The proposed Service Forum AIP Section has been released for review and comment by all of Area 46. It is posted on the Alternate Delegate's web page at *nm-aa.org/trusted-servants/alt-delegate*. If you would like to review

or provide comments, please feel free to download a copy and provide your feedback to *altdelegate@nm-aa.org* and we will be happy to include your review and comments in our upcoming guidelines meetings.

The 2019 Southwest Regional Forum will be held in Houston this year, October 11-13 at the Sheraton North Houston Hotel. If you have an interest to attend, registration is rree and will be opened on the *aa.org* website in August, and flyers for hotel reservations are available on the Alternate Delegate's web page (*nm-aa.org/trusted-servants/alt-delegate*). Please feel free to contact me if you are interested.

In Love and Service,

Bill L.

Panel 68, Alternate Delegate

# Chair

Greetings Area 46

I hope this report finds everyone in good health and spirits. Well, here we are in June and the Area 46 Convention came and went. A big thank you (you guys did it!) to the Convention Committee, you people worked your butts off. It turned out really nice. GREAT JOB EVERYONE.

On July 20, we have the Area forum in Rio Rancho hosted by District 18. These people also have been working real hard on getting this forum done. I look forward to going.

On August 3, we will have the Area Assembly planning meeting at St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, at 601 Montano Rd. NW in Albuquerque. We will start at 8:30

a.m. I hope to see you there. I know of a few workshops that are happening but we still have six months to go so let's finish with a bang.

Well that's enough out of me for now.

Yours in service,

Eloy M.

# Alternate Chair

Greetings to all. I have missed so many events this summer due to unforeseen events in my life. I really missed getting to the convention up in Santa Fe and I have heard so many good reports. However I am grateful for the large number of meetings in the Albuquerque area which has allowed me to hit some different meetings as a work around, for all the phone numbers of fellow AA folks,

for the tools of the program and for my Higher Power for keeping me on the right path and for some opportunities for short term service as my life got a little weird.

It's nothing earth shattering just required some adjustments to my scheduling. Change ... that dreaded word.. All good things. Anyway I'm looking forward to the Delegate's report at my District meeting, the Service Forum in July, Assembly planning first Saturday in August and the September election Assembly in Belen and more.

Looking forward to seeing all of you soon but until then keep on trudgin.'

Rosie

# Finance

Financially speaking, the area is looking good this month with \$2,200 over prudent reserve. Thank you to all the groups that have continued to contribute and support. As of this writing, it sounds like the Area Convention was well attended and will be able to return the full amount of the seed money to the treasury. Thank you to District 2 and the planning committee for all the hard work you did. Having been the treasurer for 2013 convention, I know how dif-

ficult and stressful that work can be. But as with so many things we do in AA, the experience gives us humility, responsibility and, of course, spiritual growth.

This coming month, we will reduce our earmarked funds by about \$4,000 as we mail off the remainder of the 2018 convention overage to GSO. We will also be paying our budgeted annual insurance cost of \$900.

As we head into the last quarter

of the rotation, I'm starting to look to individuals interested in serving as the Finance chairperson for 2020-21. If anyone is interested in serving, please let me know.

I have examined our treasurer's May report and found it to be in order.

In service,

Christoph

Chair Finance Committee

# Area 46 New Mexico AA Service Forum is July 20

The 2019 Area 46 New Mexico AA Service Forum is July 20. The forum aims to provide Area 46 AA Members the opportunity to gain insight into how to participate at the various levels of service available to all. District 18 will be hosting the event. Recent updates are as follows:

- **Site Selection:** St. Thomas Aquinas Parish, 1502 Sara Road SE, Rio Rancho.
- Fund Raiser: After thoughtful consideration and discussion, it was voted unanimously that the Forum Committee would not hold any additional fund raisers.
- **Topics:** With the 12 topics finalized, we addressed the sub-topics for each of them and they are almost all filled.
- Flyers: New flyers have been made and sent out to various websites.
- Miscellaneous: The open-

ing speaker has been selected and we have decided to close the forum with a Past Delegates panel discussion.

If you have any questions or would like to help out at the Service Forum, please feel free to reach out to our event email inbox – the address is area46serviceforum@gmail.com.

The opportunity to be of service was not available to many of us when we were actively drinking, and it is with great humility that we now accept the responsibility to be of service to the suffering alcoholic both outside and inside the rooms of AA.

Yours in Loving Service,

Enrique K.

**Attractions Chair** 

2019 Area 46 New Mexico AA Service Forum

area46serviceforum@gmail.com

# Tradition of the Month

### Seven

"Every A.A. group ought to be fully selfsupporting, declining outside contributions."



Send Contributions for *El Farolito* to:

*El Farolito* P.O. Box 1242, Taos, NM 87571

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

# CPC

Hello Area 46 AAs,

Debra K. from the Central Office contacted Tony (Area Corrections) and I to attend a workshop with the State Penitentiary Board to collaborate with community resources to improve the chance that inmates leaving prison stay out of prison. We were to be attending this workshop in June and will let you know how it went. It's so great they are reaching out to AA for support here.

We will be presenting AA to the new UNM Med school students next month. Districts 3, 11, 12, 13 and 18 are coordinating efforts to chair an AA meeting that the students will observe, then have an hour of Q&A about AA. District 13 hosted one of

these last year and it was very successful.

The DCMs and CPC chairs of those districts are putting this together. It's great to have the districts working together in this way.

The Legal Workshop in District 8 has been postponed to September – more on that in upcoming reports.

I just want to thank District 2 for the wonderful convention. We were so well taken care of, the fellowship was wonderful and your speakers carried the message! Thank you!

In grateful service,

Sarah F.

Area 46 CPC chair

# El Farolito

Hello Area 46,

It's hard to believe that summer is in full swing and we're starting to turn our attention to events in the Fall.

If your group, district or other AA event is happening in August, September or October, don't forget to send me a flyer about it to include in upcoming issues. I'll always run these when space is available – if something doesn't get in one month, it may very well the next.

Does your group or District want to host a future *ELF* mailing party? It takes about two-to-three hours to prepare the issue for business mailing out of the Albuquerque post office. Contact me if you're interested in looking at future dates, typically during the last week of the month, and let's make it happen!

And just a reminder, *El Farolito* is supported primarily by contributions from AA groups throughout the Land of Enchantment. Whether you are part of a large group that gives regularly, or a small group that sends a small amount when it can, all contributions are appreciated and welcome. See our "Thank You" list on page 7 which recognizes each contribution.

Happy summer everyone!

Yours in service,

Tim M.

#### **DELEGADA**

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mis hermanos y hermanas de habla hispana compartir su experiencia, fortaleza y esperanza. Y, aunque no pueda hablar español, siempre he sido hecho sentirme muy dado la bienvenida. Me gustaría animar a mis amigos de habla inglesa a acompañarme en la asistencia a esta Convención.

¡Espero verlos a todos en el Foro de Servicio de A.A. de Nuevo México el 20 de julio!

Su Agradecida Sirviente,

Teresa J., Delegada del Área 46

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SANTA FE, NM 87505

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575 430-9502

DISTRICT 6 (LAS VEGAS)

505 425-3577

DISTRICT 7 (ROSWELL)

575 622-6560

**DISTRICT 8 (FARMINGTON)** 

505 327-0731

DISTRICT 9 (GALLUP)

505 722-4818

DISTRICT 10 (HOBBS)

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ALBUQUERQUE

www.AlbuquerqueAA.org

**DISTRICT 2 WEBSITE:** WWW.SANTAFEAA.ORG

Please email changes or corrections to elfarolito@nm-aa.org.

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

# Grapevine

The BURQUYPAA committee (young people in AA), asked us to participate in a writing workshop in Albuquerque, which we did. We sold \$54.00 of *Grapevine* literature at the event.

What a state convention! Great job District 2.

We had a great spot in the hallway on the way to the hospitality room, so we got to meet and greet with quite a few AA's. \$377.00 of *Grapevine* literature was sold. Thank you to all

who helped, whether volunteering at the *Grapevine* table during a break, or helping set up, or break it all down, and also helping with inventorying all literature as well. We'll be placing another order soon. We now have \$430.00 in the bank.

We were told more NM AAs will be published in the *La Viña* in the Julio/Augosto (July/August) upcoming issues. Keep an eye out.

District 4 has a new *Grapevine* rep who we met and got him started on

his journey. And District 14 is working on a *Grapevine* workshop soon. Be on the lookout.

Our delegate mentioned in her report that GSO in NY has really noticed an increase in *Grapevine/La Viña* activity in New Mexico.

In Service

Manuel P.

Area 46 Grapevine Chair

# Treatment

Hello everyone! In keeping with last month, here is a report from Melanie K., the District 8 Treatment Chair.

Hello everybody!

My name is Melanie K. and I am the District 8 Treatment Chair. I accepted this position last summer and it has been such a great experience so far. At this point in time, we take weekly AA meetings to one treatment facility, Four Winds Recovery Center, in Farmington. These meetings are held every Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. I have created a monthly rotation of AA groups which have volunteered to take these meetings to this facility. This system has worked out great and we now have a total of six groups committed to this rotation.

I have asked our Area 46 Treatment Chair, Carrie Nestle, to come to Farmington to bring a treatment workshop. Our Area 46 Bridge the Gap Chair and Corrections Chair

will also be involved in this workshop. We are so grateful to have the opportunity to have all three chairs coming. Our workshop will be on July 20 from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. at one of our designated AA meeting locations, Arid Acre. District 8 looks forward to learning more about these services and positions! Thank you for allowing me to be of service to this program.

With love and service,

Melanie K.

## **DISTRICT REPORTS**

# District 3 - Belen, Los Lunas, Socorro ...

Hello from District 3! We had a great time at the Area Convention! Thank you everyone for your service.

May Cosmopolitan Group Birthdays include:

Less than 30 days: Marcella, Francis, Eddie, Andrea, Fred; Reene, 4 mos. – Mark, 5 mos. – Gerald C., 1 yr. – Karen (in Apr.), 2 yrs. – Myron, 13 yrs. – Joe T., 38 yrs. – Else G.

Good job and keep coming back! We do it one day at a time.

In Service,

Dusty S.

Send Contributions for Area 46 to:

Area Treasurer
PO Box 90762
Albuquerque, NM 87199

# THANK YOU!

# ...to these groups for their recent contributions to El Farolito

Rcvd.	. Group	Amount	Rcvd.	Group	Amount
4/24	The Cloudcroft Group	15.24	June	Serenity Group (Corrales)	15.00
4/29	Los Mesilleros (Mesilla)	30.00	June	Sober at Sunrise (Las Cruces)	25.00
June	One Step at a Time (Rio Rancho)	10.00	June	Any Lengths Women's (Albuquerque)	50.00
June	QIOF (Albuquerque)	25.00	June	HiNooners (Farmington)	10.00
May	Aztec Group	73.53	June	Tuesday 12 X 12 (Rio Rancho)	20.00
June	Aztec Group	86.50	June	Women of Gratitude (Albuquerque)	28.54
June	Fourth Dimension (Farmington)	185.72			

Without the direct financial support of AA groups in the Land of Enchantment, this newsletter wouldn't exist. Please send contributions to:

El Farolito, P.O. Box 1242, Taos, NM 87571.

Did your group make a recent contribution that has not been acknowledged? Did you send a check that hasn't cleared?

Please let me know by e-mailing elfarolito@nm-aa.org. Thanks!

# District 1 - Portales, Clovis, Tucumcari ...

Greetings from District 1! We are busy welcoming visitors and new members, as well as making summer plans for the months ahead. Our last District 1 meeting was held on Saturday, June 29, at the Fellowship Group in Clovis. Members are getting involved in summer events! In particular, we continue working on our summer Ute Lake Retreat. The theme for this summer's retreat is "We Will Know a New Freedom." Dates: August 9-11. Details will be posted soon, both here and at District 1 AA meetings.

Tucumcari Meetings: We have dedicated folks here who keep the doors open at the Unity Group. Are you in the area, either visiting or making a move? Come meet and join us! Monday and Wednesday, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. at First Christian Church, 1701 S. 4th Street, Tucumcari. Call if you have any questions: 575-461-7881. We welcome you!

Clovis Fellowship Group hosts meetings every day of the week, at noon and also at 7:30 p.m. The last Saturday of the month is Sobriety Anniversary night. Remember that the Fellowship Group has Big Book Study meetings (Sunday evening), 12 x 12 study meetings (Tuesday evening, Thursday noon), and all are open meetings. We'd love to see you

at Fellowship!

Lamplighters Group offers an evening meeting in Portales, on Fridays and Sundays, 7:30 p.m. at the Church of Christ Student Center, 207 S. Ave. K. A later meeting is helpful for many AAs in our community. Finish your day with some good fellowship. The Lamplighters Group is one of the longest serving A.A. groups in Portales. We hope to see you!

Men's Meeting: If you haven't yet, do check out the Men's Group at the Church of Christ Student Center in Portales (207 S. Ave. K). We meet at 6:00 p.m. each Monday evening. Come share your experience, strength and hope. We are here to support you!

Serenity Sisters. Please spread the word that our new women's group, meets on Mondays, 5:30 p.m. at the Community Room (use side door), 718 Wyliecox Circle, Portales. All women are welcome! We are working to meet the needs of women in our community and surrounding area.

New Morning Willow Group Meetings: We now have meetings for you early birds. Tuesday and Thursday, 6:30 a.m. at Central Christian Church (1528 S. Main Street). Have your morning coffee with us and start your day off with a helpful serving of AA! Willow Group also has six other meetings each week, Tuesday through Saturday at 6 p.m. and Sunday at 4 p.m. Tuesday nights are book studies, both 12 Steps and 12 Traditions, and the Big Book. We celebrate yearly sobriety anniversaries on the last Saturday of each month. The Willow Group has also added a recorded speaker meeting on the first Friday of each month. We're adding to our supplies of AA literature, so come check us out. Hope to see you one day soon!

We Care Group which started up in September, 2018, offers a mid-day meeting to all who are interested. We meet every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at noon. Bring your lunch and have a real mid-day break! All are open meetings, held at: Community Room, 718 Wyliecox Circle (use side door), Portales. Have questions? Call: 575-356-3255.

District 1 Addresses:

https://nm-aa.org/districts/district1/

P.O. Box 5511, Clovis, NM 8810

"Our Society has concluded that it has but one high mission – to carry the AA message to those who don't know there's a way out" (Twelve & Twelve, p. 151).

In gratitude and service, Linda S.

#### DISTRICT REPORTS

# District 5 - Alamogordo, Ruidoso, Cloudcroft ...

Full Moon Madness (co-hosted with District 4) is Saturday, July 13 from 5:00 – 10:00 p.m. at White Sands National Monument. The cost is \$10 per person, or \$20 per vehicle. For

more information check out *nm-aa.* org under the "Events" tab. District 5 is pretty quiet right now and the next business meeting will be on Sunday, August 18th at Cree Meadows Coun-

try Club in Ruidoso.

In the Fellowship of the Spirit,
Kelsey F.

# District 7 - Roswell, Artesia ...

Well we have finally started getting some hot weather. I prefer the cloudy and cooler nights myself. We are moving right along with the 2020 Convention. We had a mini conference fundraiser and it was a great success. We raised approximately \$1,100, which will come in handy I'm sure. Thanks to all who participated.

Another District 7 mini-conference will be on September 28, co-hosted with District 10. Teresa Jacks will present the delegate's report and a service workshop. Around 10 women from Roswell made it to the Area Convention in Santa Fe and had a great time. Until next month, stay cool and pray

for rain! We need it badly!!

Very Grateful in Service,

Cheryl W, District 7 Elf Rep

Birthdays for MAY, David D., 12 yrs.; JUNE, William A., 2 yrs.; Dean S., 18 yrs.; Alan R., 38 yrs.; Bill G., 13 yrs., Kirk K., 34 yrs.

# District 11 - West Albuquerque ...

Hello Area 46!

The next District 11 meeting will be one hour EARLIER than usual this month ONLY. Please join us for a special occasion on Saturday, July 13, at Mesa View Church at 8:00 a.m. for a breakfast potluck and meeting. Then at 9:00 a.m., our Area 46 Delegate Teresa J. will give a report on the recent GSO Annual Conference which included a visit to Stepping Stones, the home of Bill W. and his wife, Lois. Can't wait to hear about that!

Thank you, District 2, Lynn K., and Santa Fe for all your work and planning for the 2019 State Convention!

District 11 is still hoping for a Treasurer. Thank you, Mike and Jerry, for serving as acting treasurers! District 11's Annual Jemez Falls Picnic is coming up on Saturday, August 3. Camping is available. Breakfast at 8:00 a.m. Beautiful drive! Love to see our subtle signs pointing the way, and we like to stop for fry bread. Hamburgers and hot dogs provided for lunch. Please bring something to share. Meeting after lunch. So great to be together outdoors! Volunteers wanted. Thank you Chris S. and Jerry R. for getting the ball rolling! They welcome your help.

There will be a presentation by CPC to UNM Medical Students at the Heights Club on Monday, July 22, at 1:30 p.m. There will be a meeting and a Q&A opportunity. What do we want these future doctors to know about our life-saving program? Come tell them.

The Traditions Conference is

also on the horizon! It will be Saturday, October 26, at St. Michael and All Angels Church. The planning meetings are at 6:00 p.m. the last Thursday of the month also at St. Michael. The next meeting will be 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 25. Great project for sponsees! And the Blackouts (who entertain and inspire us!) are having a fundraiser Spaghetti Dinner at the Heights Club on Saturday, July 27, at 5:00 p.m. \$5.00 suggested donation.

District 11 meets the 2nd Saturday at 9:00 a.m. at Mesa View Church. We would love to see you there! Stay cool. Stay sober.

With love and gratitude, Beth B., District 11 *El Farolito* Rep.

# June Edition Editorial Deadline: Monday, July 15 Please email to elfarolito@nm-aa.org

Please send articles and other material you want considered for publication to <u>both</u> the **elfarolito@nm-aa.org** address, and my personal e-mail, **timmomd@gmail.com**. Look for a confirmation email from me that I've received your article. If you've sent something and I haven't told you that I have received it, please reach out to me or re-send the article. Thank you!

# District 18 - Cuba, Jemez Springs, Zia Pueblo, Rio Rancho...

The District 18 meeting was held on June 15 at the Rio Vista Park in Rio Rancho, prior to the Founder's Day Picnic. Since we needed to set up for the picnic the meeting was brief. Upcoming events are: The 2019 Service Forum at St. Tomas Aquinas Church in Rio Rancho on July 20. The planning committee continues to meet at 7:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at the United Methodist Church in Bernalillo. Plans for

the Fall Workshop are under way – the date is set for October 5, and the committee is looking at two options for the location – more will follow.

I am happy to report the Founder's Day Picnic was a success with good food, good people and a challenging game that taxed everyone's AA history knowledge. Also, by the time you read this we will have heard the Delegate's report on June 22 and, just as last year, I am sure all enjoyed it.

**GSRs** District reported meetings are mostly going well with good attendance. Committees indicated all is well. Ianet, our CPC chair, indicated there will be an event for UNM Medical Students to learn about AA on July 22 at the Heights Club starting at 1:30 p.m., with an AA meeting, followed by a question and answer session. She encouraged members with some time to attend to participate and help the students learn about how AA works. Clarence, our Corrections Chair, reported there are now meetings at the Sandoval County Detention Center on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. If you are interested in taking the message behind bars please contact Clarence for more in-

formation. An open service position is the Literature Chair – if interested let Jeff B. know or come to the next District 18 meeting.

Our next district meeting will be held on July 13 at United Methodist Church, 136 W. Calle Don Andres in Bernalillo at 10:30 a.m. (snacks provided). Please join us.

Susan D., District 18 ELF Rep.

# DISTRICT # 6 ROUND ROBIN HOSTED BY HIGHLANDS HAPPY HOUR



August 17, 2019 5:00 to 8:00 pm 310 Mills Ave Las Vegas, NM. 87701 POTLUCK – please bring a dish or dessert to share

# Teresa J. Area 46 Delegate is our guest speaker

Your Name: Kathleen V. Telephone: 505-429-2213 Email: <u>Kathleenvassalli@yahoo.com</u> for questions

# Upcoming AA Events

#### July 13

Full Moon Madness White Sands National Monument, Alamogordo NM 5:00 – 10:00 p.m.

#### July 20

New Mexico Aa Service Forum Saint Thomas Aquinas Church, Rio Rancho, NM 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

#### August 2-4

District 14/15 Campout Abiquiu Lake Abiquiu, NM

#### August 3

District 11 Jemez Falls Picnic Jemez Falls, NM

Assembly Planning Meeting St. Michael's All Angels Church, Albuquerque, NM 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

#### August 9

District 1 Annual Ute Lake Retreat Logan, NM All Day

#### August 17

Round Robin hosted by Highland's Happy Hour All Day

#### September 7-8

Area 46 September Assembly 2019 Belen Middle School Belen, NM

#### September 20-22

Taos Mountain Fiesta Sagebrush Inn, Taos, NM

#### October 11-13

Southwest Regional Forum Sheraton North Houston at IAH, Houston TX

# Anonymity in the digital age

**Q.** I maintain an Internet Web site and a personal page on a social media site. I also belong to an online meeting. At what level should I protect my anonymity on the Internet?

**A.** Publicly accessible aspects of the Internet such as Web sites featuring text, graphics, audio and video can be considered the same as publishing or broadcasting. Unless password-protected, a Web site requires the same safeguards that we use at the level of press, radio and film. Simply put, this means that A.A.s do not identify themselves as A.A. members using their full names and/or full-face photos.

**Q.** Should I be concerned about the anonymity of others who view my sites?

A. When we use digital media, we are responsible for our own anonymity and that of others. When we post, text, or blog, we should assume that we are publishing at the public level. When we break our anonymity in these forums, we may inadvertently break the anonymity of others.

For more information on anonymity online see the A.A. Guideline on the Internet at *www.aa.org*, and the October 2010 issue of *AA Grapevine* on Preserving Anonymity in a Networked World.

**Q.** What if I appear as an A.A. member on TV, in a film, or a Web cast, or allow my picture to be used in a newspaper, magazine, or online publication but do

**→** Continued on page 11



#### **ANONYMITY**

#### **⇒** Continued from page 10

not give my full name? Is this considered an anonymity break?

**A.** Yes, if full-face photographs and other easily identifiable photos of A.A. members (who are described as A.A. members) are published or broadcast, even though their full names are not given, these are considered anonymity breaks.

**Q.** I've heard a number of people, inside and outside of A.A., say the well-known A.A. members should be encouraged to announce their membership to

help promote the Fellowship. Why does A.A. continue to maintain the Tradition of anonymity for celebrities and other members?

A. Those Traditions developed out of the experience of the early members. At first, they too felt that well-known A.A. members could help the Fellowship by breaking their anonymity. But it soon became apparent that, if one anonymity breaker stepped forward, others would follow; and if members were to strive for public acclaim and power, the spiritual unity so essential to the work of helping fellow alcoholics would soon be lost.

**Q.** What about making or posting video recordings of talks and meetings? Are

these considered to be anonymity breaks, since people are seen full-face and clearly identify themselves as A.A. members?

A. Realizing that anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, it is recommended that talks by A.A. members as members be given in person, rather than be video recorded in view of the temptation of video recording to place personalities before principles," and thus encourage the development of a "star" system in A.A. (As per 1980 General Service Conference resolution) use first names only.

—from "Understanding Anonymity," www. aa.org, Copyright © A.A. Grapevine, Inc.

## El Farolito, founded in 1970, is the official publication of the New Mexico Area 46 Assembly of Alcoholics Anonymous.

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