

This reading was used by the RICHMOND GROUP in the late 1940's. Found at 101 North 10th Street in 1996.

THOMAS CARPER

PURPOSE OF THE AA MEETING:

ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS IS AN INFORMAL SOCIETY OF EX-PROBLEM DRINKERS WHO AIM TO HELP OTHER ALCOHOLICS RECOVER THEIR HEALTH..NOT BEING REFORMERS, WE OFFER OUR EXPERIENCE AND HELP ONLY TO THOSE WHO WANT IT..WHILE EVERY SHADE OF OPINION MAY BE EXPRESSED AMONG US, EACH MAN'S RELIGIOUS VIEWS, IF ANY, ARE HIS OWN AFFAIR.

NO ONE IS ASKED TO CONFORM TO ANYTHING OTHER THAN TO ADMIT THAT HE, OR SHE, HAS AN ALCOHOLIC PROBLEM AND WISHES TO SOLVE IT..THIS IS NOT THE PLACE FOR THE CURIOUS, NOR FOR ANYONE PRESENTLY UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL..

WE OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS HAVE FOUND A WAY OF LIFE WHICH NO LONGER COMPELS US TO DRINK AGAINST OUR WILL. THE WAY TO RECOVERY HAS BEEN REVEALED TO US BY A POWER GREATER THAN OURSELVES. EACH MAN SQUARES HIS DEBT OF GRATITUDE BY HELPING OTHER ALCOHOLICS RECOVER FROM THEIR OBSESSION..IN SO DOING HE MAINTAINS HIS OWN SOBRIETY. THE ONLY REQUIREMENT FOR AA MEMBERSHIP IS AN HONEST WILLINGNESS TO DO ANYTHING WITHIN ONE'S POWER TO STOP DRINKING. EACH SPEAKER ON OUR PROGRAM EXPRESSES HIS OR HER OWN VIEWS WHICH ARE NOT NECESSARILY THOSE OF THE GROUP AS A WHOLE..EACH PERSON PRESENT IS REQUESTED TO OBSERVE THE EXACT MEANING OF THE WORD "ANONYMOUS", BECAUSE A MAJORITY OF OUR MEMBERS WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 11TH TRADITION STATES:

OUR PUBLIC RELATIONS POLICY IS BASED ON ATTRACTION RATHER THAN PROMOTION: WE NEED ALWAYS MAINTAIN PERSONAL ANONYMITY AT THE LEVEL OF PRESS, RADIO, AND FILMS. SO WE ASK ANY GUEST AND ANY MEMBER OF THE PRESS TO LEAVE ANY NAMES YOU HEAR, HERE. IN THE FELLOWSHIP OF ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, WHERE THEY BELONG.

TRADITIONALLY, AA IS SELF-SUPPORTING. WE PROUDLY IMPOSE ON OURSELVES AN OBLIGATION TO PAY OUR OWN WAY.AS A RESPONSIBLE MEMBER, IF YOU ACCEPT THIS PRINCIPAL, YOU MAY AT THIS TIME SHARE YOUR STRENGTH AND SHOW YOUR GRATITUDE WHEN THE BASKET COMES YOUR WAY.

