



# The Beacon

## July– August 2015

### The Beacon Statement

The Beacon is published to foster unity, facilitate communication among AA members and groups within the North Alabama area, and present the experience and opinions of individual members of Alcoholics Anonymous on the disease of Alcoholism and recovery from it. Opinions in The Beacon are not those of Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, nor does publication of any article imply endorsement by Alcoholics Anonymous or the Huntsville Area Intergroup Association. We aim to be an instrument of carrying the A.A. message, and to publish AA related material, including personal stories of experience strength, and hope—as well as what we feel to be important information about what is happening in this area. All material is reviewed by the Beacon editor and the Huntsville Area Intergroup Association.

### The Beacon on the Web!

For those who have access to the “Web”, The Beacon is available via the internet. Just visit the AA District 20 web site at: <http://www.aahuntsvilleal.org> and click on the “NEWS” menu entry. Each issue will be posted (in PDF format) for download directly after publication.

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### Beacon Submissions

To reach the editor with article suggestions, feedback, contributions and ideas: Email to: [beacon@aaahsv.org](mailto:beacon@aaahsv.org). Or drop off at The Beacon mailbox inside the Central Office, 3322 S. Memorial Pkwy, Bldg 600, Suite 603, or call 256-885-0323.

### **From the Editor:**

This will be a some-what abbreviated issue of the Beacon. As I have frequently mentioned, this is a publication that depends on input from individual A.A. members. And, since it is now summertime, folks are taking advantage of vacation time, and Beacon inputs are even more limited. Again, I want to strongly encourage members to submit articles for publication. Surely there are plenty of experience, strength, and hope stories that might just encourage new-comers as well as those with extended periods of sobriety to “hang in there” just one more day. Think about it. Meditate about it. Pray about it. Then, all it takes is a message to [Beacon@aaahsv.org](mailto:Beacon@aaahsv.org) and it will surely be included in an upcoming newsletter.

On the reverse page, I have included a poem I wrote a few years ago, and it now truly fits the person of Jim J., a deceased member of the Huntsville Group He will be missed by many. In my opinion, he was a prime example of “humility in action”. Rest in peace, my friend.

**Bill P., Editor**

### ***HAIA Answering Service***

### ***Volunteer Opportunities***

Following is a list of openings at the Central Office for volunteers to answer the A.A. “hotline”. The sobriety requirement is 90 days. To volunteer, call Brenda C. at 256-508-1454 or leave a message at the Central Office at 256-885-0323.

Tuesday 10 AM to 12 PM; Wednesday 8 AM to 10 AM; Wednesday 2 PM to 4 PM; Friday 8 AM to 10 AM; Friday 12 PM to 2 PM; and Sat. 4 PM to 6 PM.

## In Memory of Jim J., Huntsville Group Member

### Look, The Heroes

Where are all those heroes,  
the ones of yesterday?  
Did we miss their grand finale,  
or did they slide away??

And what about the ones of now,  
their selfless sacrifice?  
Are we so blind to recognize,  
yet see ourselves so "nice"?

Then what about tomorrow's folks,  
the ones who'll brightly shine?  
Can we foresee the gallantry,  
His Love portrayed divine?

We celebrate the men so brave,  
and yes, those women strong,  
they're heralded in history,  
in books and movies long.

But how much do we clearly miss  
not knowing those who rise,  
above the normal time and tide,  
their deeds of love comprise?

Those souls of noble, quiet deeds,  
their love applied sublime,  
in sacrifice and steadfast strength,  
their deeds unsung in time.

One's greatest pleasure in this life,  
to know His love for all,  
With this, it seems, assuredly,  
we'll miss no hero small.

Perhaps no marching bands nor song,  
no cheering crowds a'glowing,  
but deep within our watchful selves,  
We've seen that love a'flowing.

Bill P., Editor

## Riverside Roundup XXXII

October 29—November 1, 2015

Joe Wheeler State Park, Rogersville, AL

A.A., Al-Anon & Alateen speakers

To Register:

Send \$25.00

Along with your name, address

Or e-mail for confirmation to:

Riverside Roundup

P.O. Box 2384

Huntsville, AL 35804

Call 1-800-544-5639

For room reservations

### **This I Know**

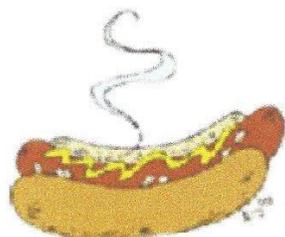
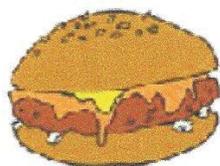
**I know not by what methods rare,  
But this I know - God answers prayer.  
I know that He has given His Word,  
Which tells me prayer is always heard -  
That will be answered, soon or late,  
And so I pray and calmly wait.**

**I know not if the blessing sought,  
Will come in just the way I thought -  
But leave my prayers with Him alone,  
Whose Will is wiser than my own -  
Assured that He will grant my quest,  
Or send some answer far more blest.**

**Eddie Cushing**

A very early member of the "Hole-In-The-Ground", one of the first AA groups in Los Angeles, CA. He studied for the priesthood, was thrown out of the seminary, and became a comedian. Over the years he wrote a lot of AA poetry.

# HAIA Picnic



**Sunday August 16,  
2015  
From 12:00 to 6:00 PM**

**at the  
Green Mountain Nature Trail  
5000 Green Mountain Rd. SE  
Huntsville, AL 35803**

**Park and pavilion are open to  
us beginning at 9:00 AM**

**Lunch at 12:00 PM**

**Speaker: Cushing P., Montgomery, AL**

**At 2:00 PM**

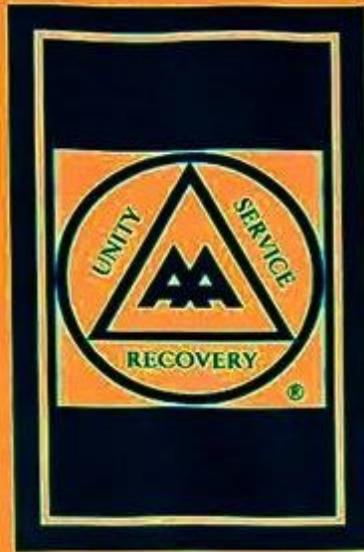
**50/50 Raffle**

**HAIA will provide  
meat and soft drinks**

**Please bring a side dish or  
dessert to share**

**Donations accepted**

**Enjoy the day and walk on the  
beautiful nature trail around the  
lake**



# **SPONSORSHIP WORKSHOP**

**When: Sunday, July 19, 2015**

**Where: Sheffield Group of AA**

**1:00pm Eating and Fellowship**

**2:00pm-4:00pm Workshop**

**Presenters will be Robbie K. (Birmingham)**

**and Sonya F. (Sheffield)**

**Bring your favorite dish!!!**