

“...this was the great contribution of our atheists and agnostics. They had widened our gateway so that all who suffer might pass through, regardless of their belief or *lack of belief*.”

— Bill W., Co-founder of A.A. *Alcoholics Anonymous Comes of Age*, p. 167

Where Can You Find A.A. For Atheists and and Agnostics?

(Quad-A in Chicago has been meeting since 1975.)

We Agnostics SUNDAY 5:00 PM
Unitarian Universalist Church—Library
4848 Turner St
Rockford, IL Closed

Quad A SUNDAY 7:00 pm
Gale House
124 N Kenilworth
Oak Park, IL 60301 Closed; Open 1st Sun of month

Quad A SUNDAY 7:00 pm
McGaw YMCA
1000 Grove St
Evanston, IL 60202 Open

Quad A Atheists & Agnostics MONDAY 7:00 pm
Alano Club
5555 N. Lincoln Avenue
Chicago - North, IL 60625 Closed / Open 1st Mon of month

Elgin Atheists, Agnostics and Everyone MONDAY 7:00 PM
Presence St. Joseph Hosp., St. Mary Room,
77 N. Airlite St
Elgin, IL 60123

Atheist/Agnostic Free Spirit Group TUESDAY 6:30 pm
Unitarian Church
656 W Barry
Chicago - North, IL 60657 Closed

Hyde Park AAAA WEDNESDAY 7:00 pm
Hyde Park Union Church
5600 S Woodlawn
Chicago - South, IL 60637 Closed

NW Suburban Quad A WEDNESDAY 7:00 pm
Schaumburg Public Library
130 S Roselle Rd
Schaumburg, IL 60193 Closed

Discussion & Problem Solving THURSDAY 7:00 pm
West Suburban Medical Center
3 Erie Ct, Rm C & D
Oak Park, IL 60302 Closed

Quad-A THURSDAY 7:00 pm
McGaw YMCA
1000 Grove St
Evanston, IL 60202 Open

Atheists, Agnostics & Everyone THURSDAY 6:45 PM
Room 9 in the Sunset Knoll Fitness Center,
820 S. Finley Road.
Lombard, IL - Closed; Open 1st Thurs of month

Humanist Atheists & Agnostics SATURDAY 11:15 am
United Church
615 W Wellington
Chicago - North, IL 60657 Closed

Free Spirit (Quad A) SATURDAY 4:15 pm
United Church
615 W Wellington
Chicago - North, IL 60657 Closed

“Quad-A” is Alcoholics Anonymous for Atheists and Agnostics

As part of A.A., Quad-A is for anyone-

- new to A.A.,
- currently in A.A.,
- being referred to A.A.,
- seeking sobriety who is an atheist, agnostic, humanist, or *anything else*.



We offer this information both for people who have or may have a drinking problem and for those in contact with people who have or seem to have a drinking problem. This information particularly addresses those with a drinking problem who are also disaffected by or uninterested in conventional concepts of “God” or a “Higher Power.” This has been reviewed and authorized as an expression of the collective conscience of the groups listed.

What is A.A.?

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A. A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

—Reprinted with permission of the A.A. *Grapevine, Inc.*

What Is Quad-A?

A.A. Members, especially newcomers, are urged to attend various meetings to find the meetings that are the most helpful to them. All A.A. Meetings have their own special characteristics. Quad-A is the most common reference for group meetings attended mostly by atheists, agnostics, and humanists; however, anyone with a desire to stop drinking is welcome.

Quad-A meetings function no differently than other A.A. Meetings—allowing recovering alcoholics to gather on a regular basis as autonomous groups using the suggested Twelve Steps for the individual and the Twelve Traditions for the group as the foundation for recovery and spiritual growth. We share and learn how to live sober and rewarding lives. Like all A.A. Meetings, Quad-A meetings are for all people with a desire to stop drinking. There are no further qualifiers or disqualifiers

“To us, the Realm of Spirit is broad, roomy, all inclusive; never exclusive or forbidding to those who earnestly seek. It is open, we believe, to all...” (*Alcoholics Anonymous*, p. 46). Quad-A acknowledges recovering persons may have a valid and fulfilling sobriety *with or without* belief in a Higher Power as traditionally understood. For many regular Quad-A meeting-goers, the “Power greater than ourselves” and “God as we understood Him” are interpreted by the individual or ignored altogether. For some of us, it is A.A. itself or the group. Our members have been reared with and without many different forms of religious training; we prefer to refrain from proselytizing for or against any particular creed. We accept the beliefs of the individual without contempt, condescension, or approbation.



What Quad-A Does...

1. We seek sobriety.
2. We go to meetings.
3. We share our experience with anyone seeking help with a drinking problem; we give person-to-person service or “sponsorship” to the alcoholic coming to A.A. from any source.
4. We stress faith in sobriety and recovery and applaud all people, religious and nonreligious, who use A.A. to stay sober and build a new life.
5. We believe in the advancement of individual human dignity and self-worth.

Useful Internet links

<http://www.QuadAChicago.org>
<http://www.AAagnostica.org>

What Quad-A Does *Not Do*...

1. We do not promote any secular, religious or nonreligious philosophy or point of view. We are not bound to any theology or doctrine. Instead, we suggest A.A.'s Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions. We feel that whatever-keeps-you-sober, as long as it keeps you sober, is OK.
2. We do not force our views on others. We do not demand you declare your religious affiliations or your lack of them. We do not demand that you do the Twelve Steps “our way.”
3. We do not avoid contact with suffering. We embrace, wholeheartedly, anyone who is having a difficult time separating from alcohol.

Conclusion

Quad-A groups, like all A.A. groups, are ongoing support systems where alcoholics can share their experience, strength and hope to build new lives that are rich with promise. Regardless of the road we follow, we all head for the same destination – recovery of the alcoholic person. There is hope. This program works if you work it, and there are all kinds of help available to help you work it. Together, we can do what none of us could accomplish alone.

We invite you to join us in our pursuit of sobriety and serenity.

