

Area 68 AA-SWTA District 2 Newsletter

August 2022

Hi All

Welcome to summertime. We just had the Summer Workshop in Victoria. Heard it was a booming success. I missed it due to illness. Our secretary attended and was looking forward to presenting us with a detailed report at the district meeting this Sunday, but due to her being ill, she will probably not be there so we will just have to grin and bear it. Maybe we can get the highlights from some of our GSR's that attended.

Last Saturday our Area 68 Delegate, Barbara Ruiz, came down from Austin and gave her delegate report on the happenings at GSC in New York. We had a turnout of about 30 people and It was a very exciting day, learning what was approved and what was given the axe. I believe my main take-away from the report is that AA as a whole is in good hands. Of course, all major decisions are either passed or failed at the group level. You gotta love the AA traditions and service structure. As was the theme of the GSC, this year, AA moves at the speed of trust.

This Sunday we have a proposal to discuss the idea of rotating meeting locations, and or making the meeting hybrid so that some folks, that live further out can attend meetings closer to home or virtually.

Whatever is decided in the upcoming meeting myself, the officers and chair people will always do our best to support the conscience of the group. I look forward to the discussion, as ours appears to be on the right track in supporting all our district meetings, any way possible.

I am truly honored and humbled to serve as DCM for such a wonderful group of service minded people.

George Thomas

DCM Panel 72

Area 68, District 2

That's all from me for now.

George Thomas
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STEP EIGHT

Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

STEP SUMMARY (from Take the Twelve)

An apology is quite different from an amends.

One dictionary defines an apology as: “*an admission of error or discourtesy accompanied by an expression of regret,*” and it defines an amends as: “*reparation or compensation for a loss, damage, or injury of any kind.*” I offer you an apology when I accidentally step on your toe. I offer you an amends when I have caused you hurt or harm in some way.

Many of us were taught by our sponsors that if we wanted to learn how to be in healthy relationships with the world around us, we could take a deeper look at the Traditions. Woven throughout each of the Traditions are wonderful suggestions on how we can better show up to those relationships. Interestingly enough, Steps 8 & 9 do that as well. On page 77 of the 12 & 12 it states, “*STEPS Eight and Nine are concerned with personal relations. First, we take a look backward and try to discover where we have been at fault; next we make a vigorous attempt to repair the damage we have done; and third, having thus cleaned away the debris of the past, we consider how, with our newfound*

knowledge of ourselves, we may develop the best possible relations with every human being we know.”

Important Reminder: As we continue this journey of being of maximum usefulness, when preparing to make our amends it is helpful to remember to not minimize our faults and failures by focusing on the faults of others, and to realize that we hurt others as well as ourselves with our drinking. In looking beyond our obvious defects and in doing a thorough examination of our flaws, we must avoid judgments of others. It’s OUR inventory that uncovered harm done – not theirs.

Many members of A.A. think that creating a list of those we have harmed is ONLY about cleaning up the wreckage of our past with those people, places or things. While that is certainly a huge part of it, another reason Step 8 is important is because it’s about continuing the process we have already started back in Step 3 of being a maximum usefulness to God and his kids. Is it possible that Steps 8 & 9 are not about getting back in the good graces of those we’ve harmed, but about being willing to do the footwork and, once again, leave the results up to God? Yes, it’s entirely possible. Love of ourselves, love of others and love of God is the foundation to this Step.

Important Side Note: Remember, this Step is ONLY about making the list. No action other than writing the list happens in this Step (*EXCEPT OF COURSE having the willingness to act upon the list as you move*

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into Step 9), so there is no need to fear (as so many of us do when we start thinking about having to make amends). It's JUST a list my friend!

MYTHS ABOUT THIS STEP

Your drinking hasn't harmed anyone but yourself. People often think that if the damage isn't extreme and noticeable, then there isn't anything beneath the surface. This is a dangerous misconception and something AA calls "purposeful forgetting." We can't get the most out of the 12 Steps if we aren't willing to be vulnerable and rigorously honest—even if what we discover about ourselves and others is painful to accept.

EIGHTH TRADITION

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

Giving It Away

Tradition 8 allows contributions to be used for support services while the groups provide only non-professional, mutual support, ensuring AA or Al-Anon remains an unpaid, nonprofessional organization. Anytime a newcomer reaches out for help, they will receive it, free of charge. In turn, as members freely share their own experiences, strength, and hope with the newcomer, they help themselves and reinforce their own recovery.

Non-Professional Mutual Support

That's not to say that members can't be doctors and professionals, but they leave those outside affiliations at the door. It's how the 12-step programs work. There is a saying in the rooms, "In order to keep it, you must give it away."

Going to a professional counselor is different from going to a group of others who are in recovery. Twelve-step groups are different from professional recovery services, offering the support that the members feel in sharing and listening to each others' stories. There is no authority the member can rebel against.

Hiring Special Workers

Twelve-step organizations at the national, state, and regional levels may have service centers which serve the fellowships as a whole by printing and distributing literature and meeting schedules, maintaining answering services, and other tasks.

Many times, these central offices and service centers involve more work than volunteer service workers can provide, so some hire full- and part-time employees to do the necessary labor to keep them running smoothly. Tradition 8, therefore, allows for the "special workers" to be hired and paid a salary to do the work that volunteers cannot cover.

Special workers may be employed to keep the AA message alive around the world through printing, communications, and other technology. This is not paying for 12-step work but paying for the services needed to

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support it with literature and outreach. Members understand the difference between paying for support services but not paying for professional counselors.

From Very Well Mind

EVENTS:

AUGUST 2022

August 26 @ 4:00 PM - August 27 @ 8:00 PM 2022 SWTA68 PI/CPC Conference

Public Information & Cooperation with the Professional Community Hosted By Districts 8D, 8E, and 15- *Let's Be Friendly With Our Friends!*

PI/CPC Conference Public Information & Cooperation with the Professional Community, Hosted By Districts 8D – 15 and 8E, Location Saint John's Methodist Church 5300 Alameda Street Corpus Christi TX. 78412, Registration Open 4:00PM-Fee-\$15.00 Friday August 26th 2022, 11:00am – 2:00pm

Professional Luncheon Texas State Aquarium 2710 North Shoreline Blvd Corpus Christi 78404 TX. (North Beach) Lunch Provided for Professional, Cost for Members to Attend Luncheon - \$25.00

For further Information contact Harold B. email bjellaagency@yahoo.com Phone 361-765-8979 or George D. email g_dowe@yahoo.com Phone 361-688-8465

SEPTEMBER 2022

September 17, 2022, 1pm-2pm

Silent Group Committee

Cheryl B's House

Please contact Casey H. for address info and questions or if you want to help. 512-971-8077, or email casroberts80@hotmail.com

September 30th through October 2nd 2022 Blanco Spiritual Retreat

\$20 Registration fee per person with 3 meals included. Daily entrance fee for Blanco State Park \$5 for Adults. <http://www.texasreserveworld.com/> Contact Stacey S at 210262-6030 for more information.

OCTOBER 2022

October 7 - October 9, 2022

SWRAASA 2022

Southwest Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly 2022

Location: Renaissance Hotel Tulsa, 6808 S 107th E Ave, Tulsa, OK 74133

Website: www.swraasa.org

October 29, 2022

AA in SA - Save the Date!

ericqsatx@gmail.com

ONLINE 12 STEP MEETINGS:

Go to <https://12steppers.org/online-virtual-12-step-meetings-for-each-12-step-program/> for a list of meetings.

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LOCAL INFORMATION:

Service Opportunity!

The district Treatment Committee is looking for volunteers to help carry the message to local treatment centers. The Treatment Committee meets on the second Sunday of every month at 1pm, 1142 Eikel Street, New Braunfels

Request for TRANSLATORS

The Publishing department at the General Service Office is seeking professional freelance translators who have a familiarity with A.A. structure and content to join our publications team (English to French/Spanish; Spanish/ French to English). We work on various projects spanning books, pamphlets, correspondence and reports and we need your talent to help us translate the material that helps French- and Spanish-speaking members carry the A.A. message of recovery. Send your resume and cover letter to aapublishing@aa.org.

Call for Stories

Fifth Edition Big Book

Deadline for submissions: October 31, 2022

The trustees' Literature Committee is delighted to invite A.A. members to contribute stories of recovery to the Fifth Edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics

Anonymous, through the new story submission section on the G.S.O. website.

The new page features:

- Guidelines and suggestions on how to write your story;
- Automatic copyright signing process;
- Acknowledgment receipt (Note: The anonymity of all authors will be observed whether their story is selected for publication or not). If you have any questions, please email: 5bbstory@aa.org

New Braunfels' Group Conscience

Meets At 12:15pm Every 3rd Sunday of the month. All members of New Braunfels Group AA are encouraged to attend ... after all, we can't have a conscience without a group! ;-)
(Attendance is mandatory for service members.)

Sober on the Square Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous

Cigar Vault San Marcos, 122 N. LBJ, San Marcos, Texas 78666, Date and Time: Wednesday Nights from 10-11 PM, Meeting Type: Open discussion. Smoking is permitted. For more information, please contact Devon at 915-526-7577

Zoom Meetings

Noon every day except Saturday
ID: 864 9468 3219
Passcode: 24Eikel (case sensitive)

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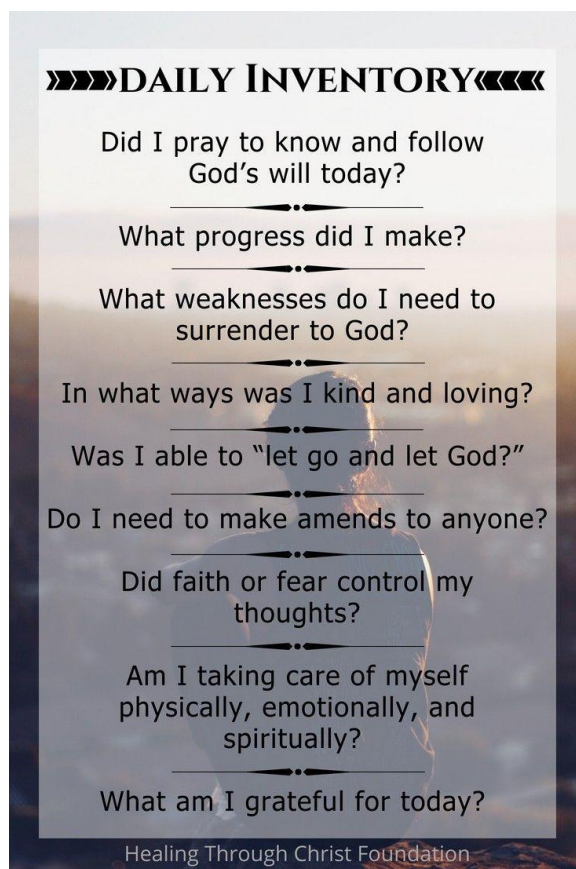
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Tuesdays-12&12 Study, 12:15-1:15
Thursdays-Big Book Study 12:15-1:15
ID: 9561549506
Password: 123456

Thursday-6:30 pm
ID: 82101661207
Password: service



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