

AREA 68 AA-SWTA DISTRICT 2 NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2021

DCM REPORT

Greetings to the fellowship,
As this is my last report to the fellowship in this District there isn't much for me to report. However, I shall press on to report current items on our agenda for our regular meeting on December 12 at 2:00 pm.

We will be seeking nominations and or volunteers for the position of Newsletter Chairperson. As I have stated previously no one is expected to perform in these positions alone. These positions are intended to be Chairpersons of a committee they each form. Duties are delegated to members of their prospective committee members. And that's all I'm going to say about that.

We are all looking to close out the old business of translating our guidelines and procedures manual into Spanish for our Hispanic members in this district. AA has always been an inclusive fellowship, I believe as a District of AA we should follow GSO's example.

We will be staging a 15 - 20 minute Workshop on GSR/Group registration update forms and swearing in your elected and confirmed GSRs. I will have forms and a talk about what it means to represent a Group of AAs in this fellowship. Everyone is invited to witness this event. If by chance it helps to encourage our members as a whole, we will also be holding a Cookie Swap Party after the Workshop is closed.

As for the general meeting agenda, we will not be taking reports from committee chairs or GSRs, unless there is an issue that requires our immediate attention, otherwise, We will be attending to items I mentioned previously.

It is my sincere hope to see all of you or as many as we can fit into the room at our meeting this December and meetings yet to come.

It has been a real pleasure to serve this district as your DCM and previous to that your Treasure. My character has grown because of it and at times despite it. :) I cannot express enough how much I have appreciated your trust and confidence in me over the past few years. It has been my pleasure to serve this fellowship and I hope to never forget this experience and what it has done for me as a person.

Your favorite service nut (or just nutz)
Tony Crossett, DCM Area 68, District 2
737-600-1249

DISTRICT 2 NEWSLETTER FOCUS

To Inform the AA community of information pertaining to District 2, Area 68, and to enhance group participation

www.area68district2.org

**AREA 68 AA-SWTA DISTRICT 2 NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2021**

**Thank You for your
service!**

2020 - 2022

OUTGOING

District 2 Trusted Servants:

DCM: Tony C.

Alternate DCM: Danny H.

Treasurer: George T.

Secretary: Cheryl B.

Webmaster: Rusty C.

Newsletter: Sunshine C.

CFC: Pegge K.

PI/CPC: Jeanine W.

Treatment: Brandie J.

Archives: Monika H.

Grapevine: Holli W.

**Congratulations for the
oncoming Trusted Servants!**

2022 - 2024

INCOMING

District 2 Trusted Servants:

DCM: George T.

Alternate DCM: Cheryl B.

Treasurer: Casey H.

Secretary: Holli W.

Webmaster: David P.

Newsletter: OPEN

CFC: Pegge K.

PI/CPC: Jeanine W.

Treatment: Kenny H.

Archives: Danny H.

Grapevine: Karen U.

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EVENTS DECEMBER - JANUARY

District 2 Meeting December 12, 2021

In Person

District 2 Meeting

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location:

New Braunfels Group Two Four Club
1142 Eikel St. New Braunfels, TX
78130

GSR Workshop Orientation

SPECIAL HOLIDAY COOKIE EXCHANGE PARTY

Action Items:

Old Business

Spanish Guidelines Version Progress
SWTA 68 2022 Winter Workshop

New Business

TBD

District 2 Meeting January 9, 2022

In Person

District 2 Meeting

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location:

New Braunfels Group Two Four Club
1142 Eikel St. New Braunfels, TX
78130

SWTA 68 Winter Workshop “The Solution: Step Into the Book”

January 21st – 23rd 2022

Location:

Hilton Garden Inn at Temple
Medical Center
1749 Scott Blvd.,
Temple TX 76504
254-773-0200

Rooms are \$110 per night and
include breakfast for two.

Reservation Code SWTA 68

Hosted by District 5

Registration is FREE

Flyer information:

www.aa-swta.org

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NEWSLETTER CHAIRPERSON

I want to thank everyone on our slate of Trusted Servants the last 2 years for voting me in to take the task of Newsletter Chairperson and for your input and support. It has been an eye opener on more in depth of how AA is structure and the history behind our wonderful fellowship.

I am so grateful to have been introduced to the 12-step programs in 1986 in So. California then had numerous opportunities to travel all over the U.S. and Mexico. I experience the unconditional love and friendships at the meetings and events, especially the AA/NA world conventions with thousands of people from a variety of cultures in the same room and live on the big screen from the people in other countries celebrating the gift of sobriety in unity. I will always treasure those joyous memories. Even at the workplace I had my careers at I had the opportunity to carry the message. Grateful for my first sponsor Diana N. for guiding me along with the recovery tools.

“Unity” and “Communications” in our fellowship is the key to keeping the support groups network flowing worldwide to help others receive the gift of a healthier lifestyle that we have been given so freely.

My heart belongs to this fellowship and I will continue to participate in my recovery it is so true what they say “It Works If You Work It” and “You Never Have to Be Alone Again”.

In Unity!
Sunshine C.
Clean Date 11-1-1986

WHAT'S NEW: www.aa.org

- ▶ [A separate post office box has been established for Seventh Tradition contributions](#) – Added November, 2021

Your office and board are excited to announce that we are embracing a new method of processing our Seventh Tradition contributions that will reduce costs, ultimately allowing for more investment in services to members and groups. To this end, we are excited to announce that a separate post office box has been established for Seventh Tradition contributions only. This change will enable us to process contributions much more efficiently and at a significant savings to the Fellowship.

- ▶ [New audio recordings of the Big Book on CD!](#) – Added November, 2021

Now available in the webstore: all-new recordings of the Big Book, *Alcoholics Anonymous*, now accessible in both abridged and unabridged versions in English, French and Spanish

- ▶ [Gratitude Month Letter from the General Manager - November 2021](#) – Added November, 2021

November is thought of by many A.A.s as “Gratitude Month.” It is a time when A.A. groups often choose to make special contributions to their local service offices or committees and to G.S.O. We do this because it is a very direct and spiritual way to participate in Twelfth Step work.

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TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS – LONG FORM P. 192

TRADITION TWELVE

“Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.”

DAILY REFLECTIONS

December 30

ANONYMITY

Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

— ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, p. 562

Tradition Twelve became important early in my sobriety and, along with the Twelve Steps, it continues to be a must in my recovery. I became aware after I joined the Fellowship that I had personality problems, so that when I first heard it, the Tradition's message was very clear: there exists an immediate way for me to face, with others, my alcoholism and attendant anger, defensiveness, offensiveness. I saw Tradition Twelve as being a great ego-deflator; it relieved my anger and gave me a chance to utilize the principles of the program. All of the Steps, and this particular Tradition, have guided me over decades of continuous sobriety. I am grateful to those who were here when I needed them.

Twelve—And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a genuine humility. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of Him who presides over us all.

AS BILL SEE'S IT

Page 224

Leadership in A.A.

No society can function well without able leadership at all its levels, and A.A. can be no exception. But we A.A.'s sometimes cherish the thought that we can do without much personal leadership at all. We are apt to warp the traditional idea of “principles before personalities” around to such a point that there would be no “personality” in leadership whatever. This would imply rather faceless robots trying to please everyone.

A leader in A.A. service is a man (or woman) who can personally put principles, plans, and policies into such dedicated and effective action that the rest of us naturally want to back him up and help him with his job. When a leader power drives us badly, we rebel; but when he too meekly becomes an order-taker and he exercises no judgment of his own-well, he really isn't a leader at all.

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GRAPEVINE December 2020 Edition

TRADITION TWELVE: Anonymity in the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

When to Tell Others

A member shares her struggle about when to stay anonymous.

I would like to respond to an anonymous letter which appeared in the March, 2017, issue of Grapevine. The writer asked how many of us are prepared to take the responsibility of explaining AA and AA policy to outside people.

The short letter bothered me for several reasons. First, I think hiding our membership in AA is a problem. Not that we need to advertise our individual membership; we don't. But shame about alcoholism will continue if we feel ashamed to be alcoholics who are sober.

Second, if a friend acquaintance or stranger needs to ask me about AA, it's my job as a sober member of AA to respond as best I am able. If I don't know an answer, I can ask another member or go online to find the answer. Better yet, I can read AA literature to find the answer. To me, that's what the Responsibility Declaration is all about.

Third, and most important, if two members of AA had not told me they were in AA, and sober, I might never have made it in myself. God bless them for being open and honest about their sober membership in AA.

In 1993, another mother at my church became the first person to share the story of their sobriety with me. Sharon (not her name) and I had babies within six months of each other. She had started a once a week mothers' group, which allowed babies to attend. I'd stopped drinking during my pregnancy, but started again when a nurse said I should drink wine to go to sleep.

At one morning meeting, Sharon asked me the "20 questions." It never crossed my mind how extraordinary it was for her to have memorized them. Never having a morning drink or DUI, or been in rehab or detox, I flew through the questions. I lied at a couple of crucial ones, such as, "did you ever feel the need to control your drinking?" But the one question I remember to this day was about never drinking again. "I don't think I could never drink again," I told her. Sharon's eyebrows arched in surprise. "I mean, alcohol is everywhere," I said. "How can I avoid it?"

"You don't need to avoid it," she said. "you focus on your Higher power and he takes care of it.", Now it was my turn to arch my eyebrows.

God next approached me two years later in 1995. I was a student of social work at Virginia Commonwealth University. I was 44 at the time. While I knew that I drank too much at times, I labored under the illusion that I had my drinking under control.

David, a fellow student, and I went to dinner to discuss a school project. I ordered my obligatory glass of wine and he didn't. "Don't you drink?" I asked. "Not for 17 years," he replied.

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Aghast, I questioned him about why he would not want to drink. He gave his story briefly. I looked at him as I might a bug under glass. He had performed a short bit of Twelfth Step work on me, which I was blissfully unaware of at the time. We moved on to our school project. I ordered my second glass of wine.

"What?" I said. "This is all I'll drink tonight." "No problem," he said. He sipped his water. "Really," I stressed. "Most of the time I only have two."

He launched into a funny story of the man who only had two, but those two were bottles. And then he said something I will never forget.

"First, the man takes the drink," he said. "Then the drink takes the drink. Then the drink takes the man."

I knew I was at the "drink takes drink" stage. I could feel it. Sometimes I drank without wanting to. But it was not until December, 2002, that I was sick and tired of being sick and tired. And when I came to AA I was ashamed at my lack of control over alcohol. I stayed long enough to learn I had a disease. I stayed long enough to relapse once after four years and bounce right back into AA.

I recently celebrated 10 years of continuous sobriety. I must admit it has only been in the last four years that I've been willing to share my AA experience with non-AAs. I've learned and experienced enough in AA to be willing to stand for AA anytime, anyplace, with anyone.

Yes, I am prepared to be one who exclaims my AA membership whenever needed.

*Laura. C.
Deland, Fla.*

www.grapevine.org

A VISION FOR YOU

Our book is meant to be suggestive only. We realize we know only a little. God will constantly disclose more to you and to us. Ask Him in your morning meditation what you can do each day for the man who is still sick. The answers will come, if your own house is in order. But obviously you cannot transmit something you haven't got. See to it that your relationship with Him is right, and great events will come to pass for you and countless others. This is the Great Fact for us.

Abandon yourself to God as you understand God. Admit your faults to Him and to your fellows. Clear away the wreckage of your past. Give freely of what you find and join us. We shall be with you in the Fellowship of the Spirit, and you will surely meet some of us as you trudge the Road of Happy Destiny.

May God bless you and keep you—until then.

**Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous
Page 164**

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RESOURCES FOR ONLINE MEETINGS

Alcoholics Anonymous: GSO

https://aa.org/pages/en_US/update-on-covid-19-coronavirus

Online Intergroup:

Alcoholics Anonymous

<http://www.aa-Intergroup.org>

AA Grapevine: They are providing **FREE** Access to most of Grapevine 2020

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/we-are-here-to-help>

Hill Country Intergroup

<https://austinaa.org/>

Deaf Intergroup of Central Texas

<https://centexdeafintergroup.org/>

San Antonio Central Service Office

<http://www.aasanantonio.org/local-virtual-meetings>

Coastal Bend Intergroup Association

<http://www.cbiasa.org/>

OTHER AA RESOURCES

**San Antonio Central Service Office
Information:**

www.aasanantonio.org

The NightCap Newsletter

**To be on the NightCap email list
contact below.**

csosamanager@aasanantonio.org

**WHERE TO SEND YOUR
GROUP'S 7TH TRADITION
CONTRIBUTIONS**

DISTRICT LEVEL SUPPORT

DISTRICT 2 TREASURER

P.O. BOX 1202

San Marcos, TX 78667

AREA LEVEL SUPPORT

SWTA68 TREASURER

P.O. BOX 716

BASTROP, TX 78602

WORLD SERVICE SUPPORT

GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE

BOX 459

GRAND CENTRAL STATION

NEW YORK, NY 10163

**District 2 website has a wealth of
information you have access to.**

**GSR's if you have any meeting
updates go to link below:**

www.area68district2.org

FOR AREA EVENTS

www.aa-swta.org

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