

# NEWSLETTER

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**AREA 68 AA-SWTA**

**AUGUST 2024**

**DISTRICT 2**

Hey everyone from District 2 AA!

I hope this message finds you well! As always, connecting with everyone through our newsletter once again is a pleasure

I'm so excited to share with you some highlights from the recent Area 68, Panel 74 Summer Workshop in San Antonio! It was an incredible weekend filled with insightful workshops and valuable reports. Here's a quick recap of the event:

First off, I attended some fantastic workshops on accessibility and technology. Noel, the Accessibilities chair, shared valuable information about smartphone apps for people with hearing impairments and the importance of making sure the Meeting Guide App is updated with accessibility information for your groups. Milan, the technology chair, provided great tips for district websites and emphasized the importance of appropriate content and design.

During the general sessions, we received important reports from the area officers. One report that stood out to me was from the treasurer, highlighting the need for continued contributions to support the Area's work. It's crucial for our groups to donate regularly to ensure the Area can carry out its service work and reach alcoholics in need.

Our current delegate, KC H., provided a comprehensive summary report from the conference, covering key topics such as the International AA convention update the 5th edition, and plan language big books. Remember, the deadline to submit agenda items for the next conference is September 30th if you are interested!

Looking ahead, we have some exciting events lined up, including the Bill W. Round up in Marble Falls, the 12- Step Workshop hosted by Wimberly Group, and the Fellowship of the Pines in Smithville, and our District 2 picnic. Don't forget to PRE-REGISTER for the Area 68 Fall Conference in Victoria! See flyers for more information.

If you're interested in hearing more about KC's summary report, be sure to attend the upcoming August District meeting. It's a fantastic opportunity to ask questions and stay updated.

I cant wait to see many of you at these upcoming events!

Gratefully in Service, Cheryl B.

# STEP 8

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

## THE ONE THING I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT STEP 8

**An apology is NOT the same thing as an amends**

**Principle of this Step: LOVE**

**What can I surrender in this Step?**

**-Fear of telling the truth and...**

**-My need to point out “their” part, and...**

**-Fear of the outcome.**

## STEP SUMMARY

**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. (More on this will be discussed in Step 9)

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 the willingness to act upon the list as you move 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.

## TRADITION 7

**Short Form:** "Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers."

**Long-form:** "Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fees or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those services for which we might otherwise have to engage nonalcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But our usual A.A. Twelfth Step work is never to be paid for."

**Tradition Summary:** The eighth tradition makes it clear that A.A. may employ professional secretaries and other professional staff members. Their job is not to DO Twelve Step work; but to make Twelve Step work possible. "Our Twelfth Step is never paid for, but those who labor in service for us are worthy of their hire." (12x12, Page 171)

There is a difference between doing twelve step work for pay and working for a master's degree as a counselor in the field of alcoholism and being of service in a hospital where more and more newcomers first find sobriety. Professional counselors do their counseling job and THEN go to A.A. meetings and carry the message "for free and for fun" just like the rest of us. Their job is not a substitute for working an A.A. program.

We must always remember that we cannot do the work of carrying the message to the still suffering alcoholic if we don't have people in our various service centers assisting us in the logistics of US carrying out our primary purpose. We see that our few paid workers are performing only those service tasks that our volunteers cannot consistently handle. Primarily these folks are not doing Twelfth Step work. They are just making more and better Twelfth Step work possible. We give freely what has been given freely to us.

# CONCEPT 8

**Short Form:** “The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of over-all policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their ability to elect all the directors of these entities.”

**Long Form:** “The Trustees of the General Service Board act in two primary capacities: (a) With respect to the larger matters of over-all policy and finance, they are the principal planners and administrators. They and their primary committees directly manage these affairs. (b) But with respect to our separately incorporated and constantly active services, the relation of the Trustees is mainly that of full stock ownership and of custodial oversight which they exercise through their ability to elect all directors of these entities.

**Principle of the Concept:** Consistency

**One thing you need to know:** Trustee oversight has 2 primary parts

**Trustee oversight had 2 primary parts:**

1. They plan, manage and execute large matters of overall policy and finance, and...

2. They oversee both of our corporations (A.A. World Services, Inc. [which includes the General Service Office] & A.A. Grapevine, Inc.).

Trustees have the responsibility of ensuring good conduct of all our world service affairs. Their attitude is one of custodial oversight instead of executive order. They are guarantors of good management as opposed to micro-managers. The in's and out's of day to day operations are not for them. They leave that up to those they elect to run the organization. Their broad brush strokes strategically guide the entities they oversee.

## EVENTS:

- September 6-7: Bill W. Round-Up
  - See flyer
- September 8: Wimberly Group 12-step Workshop
  - 12-2 pm [www.wimberlygroup.org](http://www.wimberlygroup.org)
- October 4-6: Southwest TX Area 68 Fall Assembly and Conference
  - See flyer
- October 4-6: 40th Annual Fellowship in the Pines
  - See Flyer
- October 11-13: SWRAASA SW Regional AW Service Assembly
  - 900 E Lookout Dr. Richardson, TX 757082
- October 26: Weekend in San Antonio with A.A.
  - See flyer
- Last Saturday of every month: 7-8 pm: Area 68-PI-CPC Committee Meeting
  - Zoom Info: Meeting ID: 872 2638 6440 PW: PICPC68
  - Question: Contact Kaylyn J. (512) 994-5194 or [pi-cpc@aa-swta.org](mailto:pi-cpc@aa-swta.org)

**SAN ANTONIO**  
**WEEKEND IN SA WITH AA**  
**SATURDAY OCTOBER 26, 2024**

Contact The Chairman  
 Jessica E.  
 Email: Chairman@saonline.org

Room 20  
 San Antonio Shrine Auditorium  
 Call No for Schedule 210 362 2020  
 There are two #210 Rooms  
 #2 - 1624

San Antonio Shrine Auditorium  
 901 North Loop 1604 - 78252  
 Between State Oak Parkway  
 and Blanco Road

FREE FOOD AND COFFEE  
 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Breakfast  
 Lunch 12 PM - 1:15 PM  
 BBQ Dinner 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

"Today we in AA are together  
 and we know we are going to  
 stay together" 2024 theme

**SAN ANTONIO**  
**REGISTRATION**

San Antonio Shrine Auditorium

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 26, 2024 - SHRINE**  
 8:30 AM Registration Open  
 8:30 AM Breakfast  
 9:30 AM Live AA (AA) Austin, TX  
 10:45 AM Live II (AA) San Antonio, TX  
 1:00 PM Live III (AA) Houston, TX  
 4:15 PM Live IV (AA) Wichita, KS  
 7:00 PM Live V (AA) Dallas, TX  
 7:45 PM Live VI (AA) Austin, TX

**SEB AND LIVE ART AUCTION**  
 Split the Pot - \$10 for \$5

Program for all meetings and workshops  
 are in the main Lobby  
 Book English and Spanish  
 Workshops

Call Schedule Wednesday October 23, 2024  
 Canyon View, Austin, Texas  
 5120 Pine Street

24800 Wilshire Club, Austin, Texas  
 512 Pine Street

Call or text James B. 713 382 2257  
 COIN 250.000  
 www.grpserv.org

Register online - www.saonline.org

**SAN ANTONIO**  
**REGISTRATION**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 LAST: \_\_\_\_\_  
 FIRST: \_\_\_\_\_  
 MIDDLE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 FAX: \_\_\_\_\_  
 HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 COUNTRY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DONOR FOR SCHOLARSHIPS: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: CASH: \_\_\_\_\_ CREDIT: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CASH ON HAND: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CASH ON HAND: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CASH ON HAND: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable  
 and Mail To Chairman,  
 Weekend In SA,  
 1607 Blanco St Suite 401  
 San Antonio,  
 Texas 78213-1940

Wimberley Group  
**12 STEP**  
**WORKSHOP**  
**Alcoholics Anonymous**  
**SEPT. 8, 2024**  
**NORMA A. & GUEST SPEAKERS**  
**12 - 2PM**  
 Light Snacks & Beverages

www.wimberleygroup.org

**SOUTHWEST TX**  
**AREA 68**  
 OCTOBER 4-6, 2024 VISIT AA-SWTA.ORG HOSTED BY DISTRICT 7  
 QUESTION? CONTACT: DISTRICT7@AA-SWTA.ORG

**OUR CHIEF INHERITANCE**  
**THE LEGACIES OF RECOVERY, UNITY, AND SERVICE**  
 "In the first we recovery from addiction."  
 "By the second we stay together in unity."  
 "...and by the third our society functions and serves its primary  
 purpose of carrying the A.A. message to all who need it and want it."

**FALL ASSEMBLY & CONFERENCE**  
 OCTOBER 4 - 6, 2024

HILTON GARDEN INN ROOM BLOCK CODE:  
 23 HUNTERS 33821-65 (AA) 2994  
 VICTORIA, TX 77901 DOUBLE QUEEN \$124.00  
 TEL: 901.578.0309 SINGLE KING \$116.00

ROOM RATE RESERVATIONS BY 09.13.2024  
 LINK TO BOOK ROOMS: <https://www.hilton.com/en/reservations/23hnt-hunters>

**PRE-REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE**  
 Conference Cost: \$15.00 Checks Payable To: District 7  
 Mailing Address: PO Box 5324 Victoria Texas 77903

Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle One: GSR - Alternate GSR - DCM - Alternate DCM - Non-Voting

**BILL W ROUNDUP**  
**SEPT 6-7, 2024**

Camp of the Hills  
 www.campofthehills.org  
 1552 Co. Rd 344  
 Marble Falls TX 78654

**Friday**  
 4:00pm - Registration  
 6:00pm - Dinner  
 7:15pm - Bill W History  
 7:30pm - Garrett S, Manor TX (AA)

**Saturday**  
 8:00am Meditation  
 7:00am Breakfast (lodging guests only)  
 8:00am Registration Opens  
 9:30am - Jeanne A-Marble Falls, Tx (AA)  
 11:00am - Pat V - Houston Tx (AlAnon)  
 12:30pm - Lunch  
 2:00pm - Rita V - Houston Tx (AA)  
 5:00pm - Dinner  
 6:30pm Sobriety Countdown  
 7:30pm - Jenn U, Wilmington, NC (AA)

**Camp of the Hills**  
 cabins are dorm style  
 bunkbeds  
**Marble Falls Hotels**  
 La Quinta  
 Holiday Inn Express  
 Hidden Falls Inn

Hospitality Room will be  
 open except during  
 speaker meetings

Raffle will be held Friday &  
 Saturday after the last  
 speaker

Registration Opens in June  
 www.billwroundup.org  
 info@billwroundup.org

Oct 4th - Oct 6th 2024 | 40TH ANNUAL FELLOWSHIP IN THE PINES  
**TO SEE A FELLOWSHIP GROW UP ABOUT YOU**

Hosted at our beautiful Victoria Ranch overlooking Lake in Southside, Texas  
 87 TX 77, Southside, Texas 78852

Friday, October 4th  
 8:00 AM Registration  
 8:30 AM Breakfast  
 9:00 AM Registration  
 9:30 AM Live AA  
 10:00 AM Live AA  
 11:00 AM Live AA  
 12:00 PM Lunch

Saturday, October 5th  
 8:00 AM Registration  
 8:30 AM Breakfast  
 9:00 AM Registration  
 9:30 AM Live AA  
 10:00 AM Live AA  
 11:00 AM Live AA  
 12:00 PM Lunch

Sunday, October 6th  
 8:00 AM Registration  
 8:30 AM Breakfast  
 9:00 AM Registration  
 9:30 AM Live AA  
 10:00 AM Live AA  
 11:00 AM Live AA  
 12:00 PM Lunch

Pre-Registration  
 Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration After September 13th  
 Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# LOCAL INFORMATION: 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. Attendance is mandatory for service members.

## HEE-HAW CONCEPT MEETING

Third Monday of each month at 6pm. Into Action group:  
 1302 South Main, Lockhart TX, 78644

## BEGINNERS SPEAKER MEETING

Monday at 7pm, 1142 East Eikel

## WINDMILL WOMEN'S MEETING

Saturday 7pm-8pm, Windmill Wellness Ranch  
 26229 N. Cranes Mill Road, Canyon Lake

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITY:

The Central Service Office Helpline Committee has Volunteer shifts open. Friday 9am-1pm and Thursday 1pm-5pm, may work at CSO or from home. After hours helpline chairperson: Requires 1 year sobriety, a home group, and regular meeting attendance. Please contact Virginia B: (210) 821-6325 or grpserv2019@att.net

## NB GROUP ZOOM

Noon every day except Saturday ID:  
 864 9468 3219  
 PASSWORD: 24Eikel

## ZOOM MEETINGS

District 2 Area Zoom Meeting: Second Sunday from 2pm-4pm Jan 14 to Sun Dec 14, 2025