

AREA 68 AA-SWTA DISTRICT 2 NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020

DCM REPORT

Hello District 2 there's not a lot of business to report. I have had a request from our CFC to have a mailbox for communications with the jails, we are not allowed to have a private address for this form of communication with the jails. It would be nice to have some votes on a yay or nay if we can facilitate this. Moving forward everything has been cancelled up to and passed the International Convention in Detroit this year. Many, many people are having to look to zoom for a meeting. I myself have used them and had a really nice experience with it. It's important at this time to remember that this too shall pass and at some point we will get back to some form of normal however it's very likely that our normal will change as a result of what's taking place in our world today. My thoughts and prayers are with all of us. I have faith that District 2 will prevail.

Your trusted servant
Marie Moore DCM DISTRICT 2
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District 2 Trusted Servants:

DCM: Marie M.
Alternate DCM: Tony C.
Treasurer: George T.
Secretary: Cheryl B.
Webmaster: Rusty C.
Newsletter: Sunshine C.
CFC: Pegge K.
PI/CPC: Bob L.
Treatment: Connie H.
Archives: Monika H.
Grapevine: Millie R.

EVENTS APRIL-MAY

May 3, 2020 – District 2 Meeting
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **(TENTATIVELY)**

Location:

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

May 15-17, 2020 (CANCELLED)
**37th Annual Texas Man-to-Man
Conference**

Lake Brownwood, Texas

www.man-to-man.org

**Non-Related AA Recovery Based
April 24 – 26th (CANCELLED)**
**Canyon Lake Groups 10th Annual Campout
“The Sunlight of the SPIRIT”**
Mountain Breeze Campground
9250 River Road New Braunfels, TX

WHAT'S NEW

[Are you looking for information on COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\)](#) – Added March 2020

▶ The General Service Office (G.S.O.) has been receiving inquiries about how groups might respond to the COVID-19 (coronavirus). Groups and members are concerned about health and safety issues and are looking for guidance on how to address this question. Please review updated information on COVID-19 (Coronavirus).
aa.org

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TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD
SERVICE S- PAMPHLET
AA.ORG

STEP FOUR

“Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves”

Spiritual Principle - COURAGE

The Big Book outlines the principles as a single virtue that embodies each step.

DAILY REFLECTIONS

April 17

LOVE AND FEAR AS OPPOSITES

All these failings generate fear, a soul-sickness in its own right.

— TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS, p. 49

"Fear knocked at the door; faith answered; no one was there." I don't know to whom this quote should be attributed, but it certainly indicates very clearly that fear is an illusion. I create the illusion myself. I experienced fear early in my life and I mistakenly thought that the mere presence of it made me a coward. I didn't know that one of the definitions of "courage" is "the willingness to do the right thing in spite of fear." Courage, then, is not necessarily the absence of fear.

During the times I didn't have love in my life I most assuredly had fear. To fear God is to be afraid of joy. In looking back, I realize that, during the times I feared God most, there was no joy in my life. As I learned not to fear God, I also learned to experience joy.

How Bill W. explained the spiritual principles that undergird A.A.'s structure and how the parts work together.

CONCEPT 1V

Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional "Right of Participation," taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

The principle of "Right of Participation" is built into the General Service Conference through the Conference Charter. Voting members include not only delegates, but also the trustees, and the directors and staff members of A.A. World Services (i.e., G.S.O.) and the AA Grapevine. In the same way, the boards of these two operating entities include as voting members not only trustees, but also nontrustee directors and paid administrators and staff members. The chairperson of the General Service Board appoints nontrustee members to the standing committees in order to have the advantage of their expertise, and staff members serve as committee secretaries. "There are no 'superiors,' no 'inferiors,' and no 'advisers.'" New trustees on the General Service Board and new directors of the A.A.W.S. and Grapevine boards are sometimes surprised to see paid executives, staff members and outside accountants attending the board meetings. They are invited because of A.A.'s "Right of Participation." Thus, the trustees and directors "are put into direct communication with these workers, who . . .

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GRAPEVINE

Contributions to AA

feel wanted and needed. Although they do not vote, these workers may freely participate.” Bill warns against the possibility of new delegates or trustees trying to “weaken, modify or toss out” the “Right of Participation.” He cites arguments by delegates to take away the trustees’, directors’ and staff members’ vote at the Conference. “Certainly,” he says, “our trustees and service workers are not less conscientious, experienced and wise than the delegates.” “It is vital,” he continues, “to preserve the traditional ‘Right of Participation,’ in the face of every tendency to whittle it down.” Finally, there is a spiritual reason for the “Right of Participation.” All of us desire to belong. In A.A., no members are “second class.” The “Right of Participation” therefore reinforces Tradition Two, that no member is placed in “ultimate authority” over another. We perform our service tasks better “when we are sure we belong — when our ‘participation’ assures us we are truly the ‘trusted servants’ described in Tradition Two.”

The Grapevine has recorded the growth of AA and introduced many of the principles of the program and tools of sobriety, including the Traditions, the Preamble, the Slogans, and the Serenity Prayer.

The Twelve Traditions

In response to some of the pressing problems of the day facing AA groups, Bill W. wrote the "Twelve Suggested Points for AA Tradition," laying out the framework of what would become the Traditions. This historic piece was published in the April 1946 issue of the Grapevine.

The Preamble

As interest in the new Fellowship grew, the Grapevine editors wrote a brief definition, making the nature of the AA Fellowship clear to both members and nonmembers. The AA Preamble, in two concise paragraphs setting forth what AA is and what it is not, made its first appearance in the June 1947 issue.

The Slogans, the Serenity Prayer, and the Man on the Bed

Many of the sights and sounds familiar to us in AA meetings today were first introduced in the Grapevine.

After seeing the Serenity Prayer in a newspaper in 1942, Bill W. and the early AAs had the Serenity Prayer printed on cards and included in all AA correspondence. By publishing it in early issues, the Grapevine helped usher it into

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general use within the Fellowship. The prayer has been a regular part of the magazine's format since July 1967.

The slogans, which had been circulating in early AA meetings, first appeared in their now familiar hand-lettered form in late 1956 and early 1957 issues of the Grapevine. Each was reproduced on the inside back cover and accompanied by an article about it.

The painting, "The Man on the Bed," was created for the December 1955 issue of the Grapevine. It is treasured by many AAs as a reminder of Bill W. and Dr. Bob's Twelfth Step visit to AA number three and as a symbol of Twelfth Step activity. The Grapevine recently issued a new color reproduction of the painting.

Responsibility Declaration

The Responsibility Declaration was written for the 1965 International Convention in Toronto by Al S., a former Grapevine editor and trustee. Bill W. expanded on the theme in an essay called "Responsibility Is Our Theme" for the July 1965 Grapevine. It became a regular feature of the Grapevine shortly thereafter.

Big Book Stories

More than a dozen stories in the second, third, and fourth editions of the Big Book were first published in the Grapevine, as were the stories in AA in Prison: Inmate to Inmate and many quotations in As Bill Sees It. Over the years, the Grapevine also has provided articles for several AA pamphlets including "Problems Other Than Alcohol" and the Traditions Checklist.

www.aagrapevine.org

If your group has an event coming up and would like it in the newsletter, please contact:

walkingon_motherearth@yahoo.com

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 link below:

www.area68district2.org

If you have any short articles or helpful AA information please email me at:

walkingon_motherearth@yahoo.com

Thank You for letting me be of service!
Sunshine

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