

Area 68 AA-SWTA District 2 Newsletter

January 2022

Happy New Year to all and welcome the incoming trusted servants!

I am hopeful that 2022 will bring us opportunities for new beginnings and fresh starts but also a time for reflection after another difficult year from the effects from the pandemic. As the newly elected DCM for District 2, Panel 72 it is my objective to be a vital link between the G.S.R.'s, the area service structure, and our delegate to enhance communication and participation but I also want to have some fun while doing it.

The next district meeting is on Sunday, January 9th at the 2 4 club in New Braunfels at 2pm. We will be discussing agenda items for the upcoming Winter Workshop that will be in Temple, TX on January 21st – 23rd, the 2022 district meeting and events calendar, gathering suggestions for district meeting structure changes, and ways to better reach out to groups within our district that are currently dark so bring your ideas.

I also wanted to extend a heartfelt thank you to the outgoing district's trusted servants. The effects of the pandemic caused for a rough 2020-2021. Due to restrictions from COVID the district meetings were cut-off, the DCM had to step down due to medical issues, and groups were left to fend for themselves. Through some persistence and the use of Zoom the Alt DCM at that time, Tony C., stepped up got the district meeting up and running

again and even pulled off having a picnic this past September. Thank you all for the support and guidance through those turbulent times.

Looking forward to a flourishing 2022 and beyond.

George T.

DCM, Area 68, District 2

Incoming District Two Trusted Officers

District Officers

DCM – George T.

Alt. DCM – Cheryl B.

Treasurer – Casey H.

Secretary – Holli W.

District Committee Chairs

PI/CPC – Jeanine W.

CFC - Peggy K.

Webmaster – David P.

Grapevine – Karen U.

Newsletter Chair – Judy H.

Treatment Facilities Chair – Kenny H.

Archives Chair - Danny H.

As Bill Sees It: *"You can't make a horse drink water if he still prefers beer or is too crazy to know what he does want. Set a pail of water beside him, tell him how good it is and why, and leave him alone. If people really want to get drunk, there is, so far as I know, no way of stopping this - so leave them alone and let them get drunk. But don't exclude them from the water pail, either."* LETTER, 1942

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STEP ONE

"We Admitted we were powerless over alcohol – that our lives and become unmanageable."

Daily Reflections, January 3rd:

It is no coincidence that the very first Step mentions powerlessness: An admission of personal powerlessness over alcohol is a cornerstone of foundation of recovery. I've learned that I do not have the power and control I once thought I had. I am powerless over having just missed the bus. I am powerless over how other people work (or don't work) the Steps. But I've also learned I am not powerless over some things. I am *not* powerless over my attitudes. I am *not* powerless over negativity. I am *not* powerless over assuming responsibility for my own recovery. I have the power to exert a positive influence on myself, my loved ones, and the world in which I live.

Twelve and Twelve, page 21:

Who cares to admit complete defeat? Practically no one, of course. Every natural instinct cries out against the idea of personal powerlessness. It is truly awful to admit that. Glass in hand, we have warped our minds into such an obsession of destructive drinking that only an act of providence can remove it from us.

The Steps We Took page 17:

We can become so caught up in a problem that all we can see it do is to try harder- try to get the wrong method to bring the right results be doing it harder! . . . Step 1 tells us we'd better stop and name the problem, and become willing to admit defeat before we rush in to fix things.

TRADITION ONE

"Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity."

www.takethe12.org

Long Form:

"Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward."

Principle: UNITY

From the Foreword of the 12 & 12: "A.A.'s Twelve Traditions apply to the life of the

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Fellowship itself. They outline the means by which A.A. maintains its unity and relates itself to the world about it, the way it lives and grows.”

TRADITION SUMMARY - WE BEFORE ME

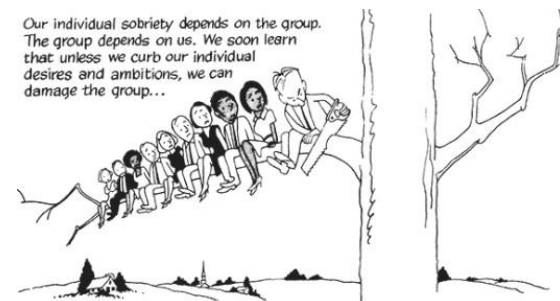
Unity begins with an individual. Having unity within oneself and with one’s Higher Power is vital to expressing unity in any other relationship. When one is following the guidance and will of a Higher Power, inner balance is achieved and then the ability to participate in a healthy relationship is greatly improved. Thus the relationship’s unity is best serviced by each individual’s unity with a Higher Power.

The Twelve Steps produce recovery and enable us to match calamity with serenity without taking the first drink. Recovery is the restoration of our relationship with God through sobriety. Our happiness, though, is incomplete unless we expand our loving relationship with God to our relationships with each other.

The Traditions show us how to love each other. The principles of the group apply to the individual. Through working the principles of the traditions we carry out the steps in the world. We live in the solution, not the problem. We are united with each other in love. When we love, we want to serve. The concepts of service then show us how to love each other through being of service to the world. Hence, A.A. has the three-word motto, “Recovery-Unity-

Service”, based on the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and Twelve Concepts of Service.

Since the bottom has risen in A.A. there has been a need to go beyond recovery into learning how to get and maintain relationships. We must apply the First Tradition in all areas our life (A.A., Work, Home, etc.) so our sobriety isn’t threatened. If we do not place our common welfare first, we could easily stay a loner and eventually drink out of loneliness.



What's New on AA.org

Dear A.A. Friends, it is my pleasure to announce the launch of our newly updated Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) website, www.aa.org. What a great time and privilege to serve as the General Manager of your General Service Office (G.S.O.). G.S.O. coordinates many services that help groups and members fulfill their purpose of carrying the A.A. message to the alcoholic who still suffers, and aa.org plays an important role in that work. Among the many benefits of our new website, it will serve as a significant resource for A.A. members, those seeking help from A.A., professionals working with alcoholics, the media, and the public at large. Above all, it

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will provide consistent information about Alcoholics Anonymous.

Box 4-5-9 Winter 2021: [This issue](#) highlights important A.A. events, both in the U.S./Canada and around the world. The issue also reports on some developments at G.S.O. that will help A.A. members in custody and A.A. members on the outside to connect more quickly and to share experience, strength and hope through correspondence. There is also some information about the annual anonymity letter distributed to the media by G.S.O. and an article about how group problems can actually be a good thing.

A separate post office box has been established for Seventh Tradition contributions: 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! 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 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.

A Trio of Holiday Special Offers — November 1, 2021 – January 15, 2022: We are delighted to announce our line-up of A.A.W.S. literature [2021 Holiday Special Offers](#), including 10% off all Big Books (all formats, all languages); 15% off all orders over \$100; and 10% off A.A. items focused on spirituality.

Revised and reformatted Conference-approved A.A. Service Manual, now available in PDF: A.A.W.S. is pleased to announce publication of the revised and reformatted General Service Conference-approved [A.A. Service Manual combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service, 2021-2023](#), now available in PDF format in English, French and Spanish. Print edition coming soon.

First Communication from Bob W., General Manager: It is with much gratitude and joy that I share [my first communication with you as General Manager of the General Service Office](#). By way of introduction for those who don't know me, my name is Bob and I'm an alcoholic!

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Announcing Grapevine's New Podcast: The AA Grapevine Half-Hour Variety Hour. Featuring AA members Don and Sam. Starting on October 4, 2021 with a new episode each Monday. Each week Don and Sam will interview a different member about their experience, strength and hope, in a casual "meeting after the meeting" manner. Special features will enhance each episode. A new podcast episode will be available in English every Monday. To hear the podcasts go to aagrapevine.org/podcast

Alcoholics Anonymous: Hispanic Women in A.A. share their experiences of hope and recovery: The 15 stories contained in the most recent Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) recovery publication, "[Hispanic Women in A.A.](#)," share the experience, strength and hope of a wide variety of Hispanic women, all of them alcoholics who found sobriety and a new way of life within A.A.

Announcing Revised and New Items of A.A.W.S. Literature: We are delighted to announce that several items of [revised and new literature](#) published in adherence to Advisory Actions of the 71st General Service Conference are now available.

Box 4-5-9 – Fall 2021: [This issue](#) highlights G.S.O.'s new Member and Customer Service department, with a look at how it meets the needs of members in the U.S./Canada and around the world. The issue also reports on an important professional research project focused on A.A. There is also an introduction to the new G.S.O. general manager and Grapevine publisher, along

with profiles of two trustees on the General Service Board.

NOW IN PRINT - Announcing: Preamble Wallet Card and Placard: Newly revised Preamble items, in accordance with the group conscience Advisory Action of the 71st General Service Conference:

Wallet Cards

- [English \(M-2\)](#)
- [French \(FM-2\)](#)
- [Spanish \(SM-2\)](#)

A.A. Preamble Placard

- [English \(M-10\)](#)
- [English \(M-11\) - Set of 3 display placards \(A.A. Preamble, Unity, Responsibility\)](#)

Update on Printing Delays due to the Covid-19 Pandemic: Please note that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, delays in manufacturing, printing and shipping are directly impacting the supply chain for A.A.W.S. literature and other items. It is likely we will be experiencing intermittent backorders on select items. Please feel free to contact us for help in ordering.

- Email: memberservices@aa.org
- Phone: 212-870-3023

"You've got one life to live. Don't screw it up with a lot of maybes, what-ifs, and could-have-beens. Focus on what you have."

"Old Advice," Carmel Valley, California, August 2000, Beginner's Book: Getting and Staying Sober

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EVENTS:

2022 Winter Workshop – In Person

Winter Workshop *"The Solution: Step Into the Book"* Hosted by District 5 SWTA 68

January 21, 2022 - January 23, 2022

Hilton Garden Inn at Temple Medical Center

www.aa-swta.org/events

68th Annual Coastal Bend Jamboree

Feb 4th – 6th, 2022

Omni Bayfront Hotel

900 North Shoreline Boulevard, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401

More information to be announced on our website www.cbiala.org under events, including Registration, Hotel Reservation, and list of scheduled speakers.

SWTA68 CFC Conference – In Person

"Freedom From Bondage" SWTA 68 Annual CFC Conference February 25 - 27, 2022

Wingate by Wyndham Hotel & Conference Center, 1209 N Interstate 35, Round Rock, Texas 78664

See www.aa-swta.org/events for more information on registration.

SWRAASA 2022 – In Person

October 7, 2022 - October 9, 2022

Southwest Regional Alcoholics Anonymous Service Assembly 2022

Renaissance Hotel, 6808 S 107th E Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74133

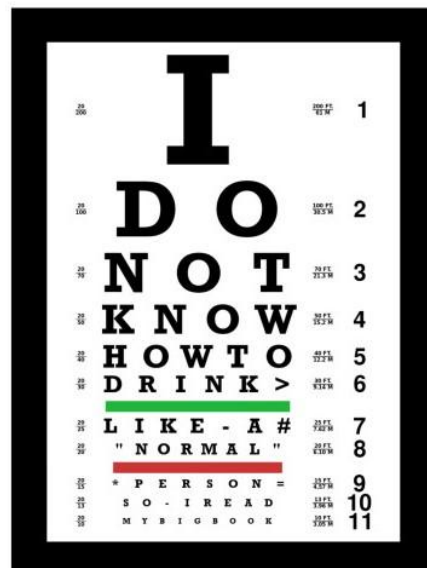
www.swraasa.org

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...after all, we can't have a conscience without a group! ;-)

(Attendance is mandatory for service members.)



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