

# NEWSLETTER

---

AREA 68 AA-SWTA ● MARCH 2024 ● DISTRICT 2

## A LETTER FROM OUR DCM

Dear Members of District 2 AA,

As we welcome the arrival of spring, I'm thrilled to announce that planting is done in my expansive garden which I hope will yield a bountiful harvest of home-grown vegetables that I can share throughout the summer.

A friendly reminder that the deadline for submitting the founder's writings surveys is approaching. Please ensure they reach me at our March district meeting, or alternatively, you can deliver them directly to KC H. at the upcoming area assembly in Mission, TX. During our March meeting, we'll collectively review and discuss the survey findings. GSRs are kindly requested to cast their votes in alignment with their group conscience, and while this isn't a platform for debate, it's an opportunity to share the consensus of our district.

To prepare for the upcoming assembly, KC H. has thoughtfully provided a list of eight agenda items that he wishes to address in Mission, TX. Steven will be disseminating these to GSRs, and printed copies will be available at our district meeting. Additional background material can be accessed on the area website in the Delegate's Corner at <https://www.aa-swta.org/>

I'd like to draw your attention to some upcoming events, details of which can be found on the District 2 website at <http://www.area68district2.org/>.

I eagerly anticipate our March district meeting scheduled for Sunday, March 10th, at 2pm at the 24 Club in New Braunfels. Additionally, the Area Assembly in Mission, from Friday, March 15th to 17th, promises to be an enriching experience. Your presence and input, especially from the service committee's and GSRs, are invaluable to the success of these events.

Looking forward to our continued collective efforts in service and fellowship  
Gratefully in service,  
Cheryl B.

# STEP 3

“Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood God”

## THE ONE THING I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT STEP 3:

### Real Action Starts With a Decision

**Principle of this Step:**

**Faith**

**Reading Assignment:**

**BB pgs: 60–64 12&12 pgs. 33–41**

### What Can I Surrender in this Step?

1. The person I was before taking these Steps.
2. My belief that I know better than God what is right for me.

## TRADITION 3

**Long form:** “Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.”

## TRADITION 3 EXPLAINED

The relationship of the third tradition to the third step is a profound one. The third step poses the question: What do I need to do in order to turn my will and my life over to the loving care of God as we understand him? The tradition answers the problem posed in the third step. The only requirement I need to fulfill in order to turn my will and life over to God’s loving care is a desire to stop drinking. It is unbelievable that all the power of the universe is available to care for me if I only have one desire: to stay sober.

## CONCEPT 3

**Short Form:** “To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A.- the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives- with a traditional “Right of Decision.”

**Long Form:** “As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional “Right of Decision.”

# STEP SUMMARY

Decisions are wonderful. Decision is defined as “making up one’s own mind.” Decisions resolve conflicts. For many, the conflict over drinking and not wanting to drink made a third step decision relatively simple. We were happy to turn over our drinking problem to God as we understood God. However, for many of us, we were not so willing to turn over other areas of our lives so readily.

This step helps shift our mindset from thinking directly into action. It opens the door to conforming our will to that of our Higher Power’s. Step 3 is the first step that requires real and continuous action. The first two steps focus on reflection and introspection. In Step 2, we learned to believe in a Power greater than ourselves (some call that faith). Step 3 allows us the place to solidify and act on our newfound faith in ways we never knew possible before coming to the rooms—some call that trust.

Have you ever wondered WHY (in the Third Step Prayer) we “**offer ourselves to Thee?**” Answer: So our Higher Power can “build with us and do with us as it will.” Have you ever wondered WHY we ask HP to “**relieve us of the bondage of self?**” Answer: So that “we may better do HP’s will.” Have you ever wondered WHY we ask HP to “**take away our difficulties?**” Answer: So that we fully understand that “victory over them may bear witness to those we would help of HP’s power, love and way of life.

I heard someone share in a meeting once about Step 3 that it’s like when you take your car to a mechanic to have them fix or service it. You trust that they will be able to get it all tuned up and ready to give back to you. They don’t want to KEEP your car, they just want to get it in good working order so you can move on down the road. Making the decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God (trusting God) is much the same thing.

As we’ve learned in our basic text, the spiritual life is not a theory— we must live it. This means we need to begin putting in practice those things that will ultimately be the foundation to the **personality change** sufficient to bring about recovery from alcoholism (once again proving that alcohol is not now, nor has it ever been the problem). It has been said that “We thought faith said, “I’ll take away the pain and discomfort,” but what it ended up really saying was, “I’ll sit with you in it. I’m here with you and we can walk through this together.”

# EVENTS:

## **2024 SWTA 68: Pre-General Voting Assembly**

When: March 15-17

Where: Mission Event Center- 200 N. Shary Rd Mission, TX 78572

Contact: Melissa M. for any questions- [classysinger.mm@gmail.com](mailto:classysinger.mm@gmail.com)

## **77th Texas State A.A. Convention:**

When: June 21-23

Where: Westin Hotel- 4545 W. John Carpenter Fwy (Hwy 114) Irving, TX 75063

Contact: 972-929- 4500

## **A.A. Service Manual- Virtual: In-depth book study**

When: Every other Thursday at 6:30 pm CST

Meeting ID: 850 7691 9502 Passcode: Service24

Contact: [3legacyservice@gmail.com](mailto:3legacyservice@gmail.com) for more info or to be added to list

## WHERE TO SEND CONTRIBUTIONS

The Seventh Tradition states:

‘Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.’ While contributions cover each group’s rent and other expenses, the Seventh Tradition is essential at every level of A.A. service. It is both a privilege and a responsibility for groups and members to ensure that not only their group, but also their intergroup/central office, local services, district, area, and the General Service Office remain self-supporting. This keeps A.A. free of outside influences that might divert us from our primary purpose- to help the alcoholic who still suffers. The amount of our contribution is secondary to the spiritual connection that unites all groups around the world.

**SWTA 68 District 2**

**PO Box 312443**

**New Braunfels, TX 78131- 2443**

The Southwest Texas Area extending from Del Rio and Ozona on the West, to Wharton and Giddings on the East from Coleman and Brownwood on the North and Brownsville on the South does and will continue to function as a Service body. Always protecting and respecting autonomy and the privilege of dissent of any AA group in the Area.

The Area assembly will always be mindful of the ideals expressed in the Twelve Traditions, the Twelve Concepts and the AA Service Manual, and try to be the voice and group conscience of the Area AA.

Service to the Area Districts and Area Groups is its primary purpose and every attempt will be made to encourage all area groups to participate and support the Area Assembly, the General Service Office, and the AA World Services. It shall be the responsibility of the Area Assembly to elect an Area Delegate Service Conference, an Area Alternate Delegate, and the Required Area Assembly Officers, and to give financial support to the Area Delegate as required to perform the duties of the office

## 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](mailto: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

# 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.

## **FAMILY GROUP EDUCATION AND YOUNG ADULTS MEETING**

Helping young adults and families heal for the effects of substance use disorder. Ages 18-24. every Thursday 7pm-8:30pm.  
790 Landa Street, New Braunfels, (830) 312-3612

## **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

## **NEW MEETING**

2 Rivers Al-Anon Family Group, Tuesdays at 7pm New Braunfels 2-4 Club,  
for more information contact: Vicki B: (201) 728-8769