



# THE STAND



FEBRUARY 2011

THE OFFICIAL DISTRICT 12 NEWSLETTER

ISSUE TWO

## Group of The Month -- An AA Group -- by Critter F.

Out on Junction Highway, just outside of Ingram, Texas, sits a modest building that looks as though it could have been, in its former life, some sort of rowdy road house bar, but is today a haven of experience, strength, and hope. Fondly called The Outpost, this building is home to several AA and CA groups, but the focus this month is on An AA Group, which meets every Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. About ten years ago, a group of about 40 people got together in the Hill Country and headed out to "trudge the road of happy destiny". Like many endeavors involving large groups, people dropped to the wayside for whatever reason, and only about ten remained. These folks decided to keep going, and took it upon themselves to start a weekly group at The Outpost around Halloween of 2000. In its infancy, this group made it a point not only to give a clear message in regards to the twelve steps of Alcoholics Anonymous as prescribed in the Big Book, but to bring into the fellowship the study of the twelve traditions and the twelve concepts. The group would take a yearly inventory together, involving the traditions and concepts, to find out what they could do better in getting the message of Alcoholics Anonymous to the still suffering alcoholic. Also, at the start of their meetings, it was decided that it would be beneficial to the group to have a period of about three minutes of quiet time to be used for meditation and

prayer. Many members of the group are involved at the area and district levels, and it was decided by the group that all money, after meeting its prudent reserve, was to be divided up between the New York offices, district and area. In 2011, An AA Group, its name coming from the twelve and twelve, is still going strong, with many more members than its original ten. Tuesday nights at the Outpost are usually full, and the coffee is free. Peggy H., a member of An AA Group since 2005, says that her initial motivation in coming to the Outpost on Tuesday nights was that she could save money on gas, when prices peaked at over 4 dollars a gallon, because it was only a mile away from her house. But what kept her coming back was the clear message she heard from one of the founding members of An AA Group, a message that was straight out of the Big Book, a message that was full of hope for the still suffering alcoholic, and a message for the alcoholic who has recovered, but must maintain his or her spiritual connection to stay recovered. An AA Group offers solid Big Book solution, and its members are among those that have recovered from a hopeless state of mind and body. If you want what they have, by all means, go visit them, they would be delighted to see you.

The Outpost is located at 3449 Junction Hwy, Ingram,

### Grapevine Article from Issue Oct. 1990

#### A Deep Sense of Calmness

On his desk Dr. Bob had a plaque defining humility: "Perpetual quietness of the heart is to have no trouble. It is never to be fretted or vexed, irritable or sore; to wonder at nothing that is done to me, to feel nothing done against me. It is to be at rest when nobody praises me, and when I am blamed or despised, it is to have a blessed home in myself where i can go in and shut the door and kneel to my Father in secret and be at peace, as in a deep sea of calmness, when all around and about is seeming trouble."

Dr. Bob and the Good Old Timers



### ? Ask it Basket ?

#### Why do we recite the Lord's prayer at the end of meetings?

The practice of ending the meetings with the Lord's Prayer, once almost universal, is still common in many areas. Groups that continue to close with the Lord's Prayer are following a custom established in the Fellowship's earliest days, when many of the founding members found their support in meetings of the Oxford Groups. The practice of closing with the Lord's Prayer very likely came directly from those meetings. At the time there was no A.A. literature, and so the founders leaned heavily on Bible readings for inspiration and guidance. They probably closed with the Lord's Prayer because, as Bill W. explained, "it did not put speakers to the task, embarrassing to many, of composing prayers of their own." Meeting formats became more inclusive once A.A. begun to spread throughout North America and then the rest of the world, and it became obvious that the program of recovery could cross all barriers of creed, race, and religion.

Have a Question? Just Ask it!  
Send all questions or comments to  
mikescef@gmail.com

### Tradition of the Month

#### TRADITION 2

*For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority-a loving GOD as HE may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern. (short form)*

Do I criticize or do I trust and support my group officers, AA committees, and office workers? Newcomers? Old-timers?

Am I absolutely trustworthy, even in secret, with AA Twelfth Step jobs or other AA responsibility?

Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?

Do I have to save face in group discussion, or can I yield in good spirit to the group conscience and work cheerfully along with it?

In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?

# AA's Three Legacies

by Bill H.

The founders of Alcoholics Anonymous gave us three great legacies: Recovery, Unity and Service. A sponsor who firmly believed in these legacies embedded the concept of circle and triangle in me in my early recovery.

Our first legacy, Recovery as embodied in the Twelve Steps, gives us the principles that have given us a path to have the necessary vital spiritual awakenings. It is from this process that we can experience happiness and freedom and to live useful and productive lives. The spirit of the Twelve Steps and these principles of retaining grace had to be the fundamentals of our unity.

Thus, our second legacy, Unity as embodied in the Twelve Traditions, has provided us with a fellowship where we have singleness of purpose “– it’s our common solution that holds us together”. The fellowship of AA and the AA meeting provide the basis for this unity. These traditions allow for independence of the AA group “4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.”

Our third legacy, Service as embodied in the Twelve Concepts, offers us the opportunity to implement our primary purpose “to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers”. The need for a lasting and binding structure of AA as a whole became obvious as the original founders sought a way to pass AA, as it was, on to us.

## Note from Tommy F. - District 12's Current DCM

Hello Friends;  
We should be so grateful to be in recovery in the Hill Country and District 12. I just returned from Corpus Christi where I attended the Coastal Bend Jamboree. Over 900 AAs gathered together to celebrate recovery. My recovery started in Corpus Christi in July 1997, so to reunite with old friends was an experience in itself. I was amazed to hear the response of what people said about recovery in the Hill Country about how active we are and the message we carry. District 12 is blessed to have the opportunities of carrying the message and service with the number of Treatment Centers, Halfway Houses, Jails, and the large community of people in recovery. We have a lot of RECOVERED Alcoholics who are excited about Recovery, Service, and helping others. With 5 counties in District 12 and the numerous opportunities to serve we still need more people to help. I would like to invite you to join us in the SERVICE of District 12. We need more people to take meetings into the Treatment Centers and Jails, help distribute meeting schedules and literature to the public and professionals, work the

phones of the District Helpline and much more. I call out to you guys through out the District, especially those out in Medina, Lake Hills, Boerne, Bandera, Junction, and Fredericksburg-Stonewall. We love to hear from you guys. The Newsletter is a tool and can only be sharpened by the participation around the District. I encourage you guys to submit articles and stories to the Newsletter, join a District Committee and attend a District 12 Service meeting. I hope to see and meet you all as we visit a town near you soon as we rotate the District 12 meetings around the Hill Country.

In the Spirit of Love and Service  
Tommy F  
District 12 DCM

### District 12 Newsletter Focus

To inform the AA community of information pertaining to District 12, Area 68, and GSO and to enlarge group participation.

## UPCOMING AA EVENTS

AREA 68	WHERE	WHEN
SAMSO	San Antonio	Feb 13
Weekend in SA Golf Tournament	San Antonio	Feb 25
SWTA 68 CFC Conference	Weslaco	Feb 25-27
SWTA Spring Conference	Corpus Christi	Apr 15-17

DISTRICT 12	WHERE	WHEN
District 12 Monthly Meeting	Fredericksburg	Feb 13
Outpost Golf Tournament & Fundraiser	Riverhill G.C Kerrville	April 11

## HAM ON WRY

*Sometimes the Best Things are heard after the meetings. Such as:*

**“It was good talk, but he talked too much about what he said.”**

**“I don’t have trouble believing in a higher power, I just have trouble believing it isn’t me.”**

**“How long should you keep coming to meetings? Until you die of something else.”**

*The AA Grapevine, Inc. (July 1991)*

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## District 12 Trusted Servants

**DCM** Tommy F.

**Alternate DCM** Jim A.

**Secretary** Josie E.

**Alt. Secretary** Jamie C.

**Treasurer** Debbie B.

**Archives** Linda B.

**Correctional Facilities (Women)** Josie E.

**Correctional Facilities (Men)** Clay E.

**Grapevine** Lester S.

**Help Line** David M.

**Newsletter** Mike S.

**Public Information** Terry T.

**Cooperation with Professional Community** B.J. K

**Spanish Meeting Coordinator** Joseph G.

**Treatment Facilities** Greg B.

**Treatment Facilities, Alternate** Teresa W.

For email and contact information please visit  
[www.aa12.org](http://www.aa12.org)