

THE OFFICIAL  
NEWSLETTER  
OF THE  
SOUTHWEST  
AREA 68  
DISTRICT 12  
OF ALCOHOLICS  
ANONYMOUS



## Concept VIII

*The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of the 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 directors of these entities.*

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This Concept further defines the way the General Service Board Trustees handle their obligations and their relationship with the two service boards. To be effective, the General Service Board must be devoted to matters of policy, finance and leadership without getting bogged down in the details of daily operations at the headquarters or with the magazine.

The General Service Board is able to delegate its executive function by 1) hiring the General Manager of the General Service Office, 2) hiring the Executive Editor and Publisher of the Grapevine. These two positions are automatically the chairpersons for AAWS, Inc. and Grapevine, Inc. boards.

The Board further delegates authority by selecting non-trustee directors to serve on the service corporation boards and filling the remainder of trustee vacancies with General Service Board trustees. It is by this process that the GSB exercises ownership of the two service corporations. The direction and function of these two boards is lodged in the service corporations themselves, rather than the GSB.

When writing this Concept Bill W. draws from earlier mistakes by the General Service Board in trying to run the service functions directly and warns repeatedly against “too much *concentration* of money and authority.”

James H.  
P64/A68 Southwest Texas

DISTRICT12 NEWSLETTER FOCUS — TO INFORM THE AA COMMUNITY OF INFORMATION PERTAINING TO DISTRICT 12, AREA 68, AND GSO AND TO ENLARGE GROUP PARTICIPATION.

## Tradition Eight

“We made it when we took inventory. We subjected ourselves to a drastic self-appraisal. Now we go out to our fellows and repair the damage done in the past. We attempt to sweep away the debris which has accumulated out of our effort to live on self-will and run the show ourselves. If we haven’t the will to do this, we ask until it comes,”

*Alcoholics Anonymous*

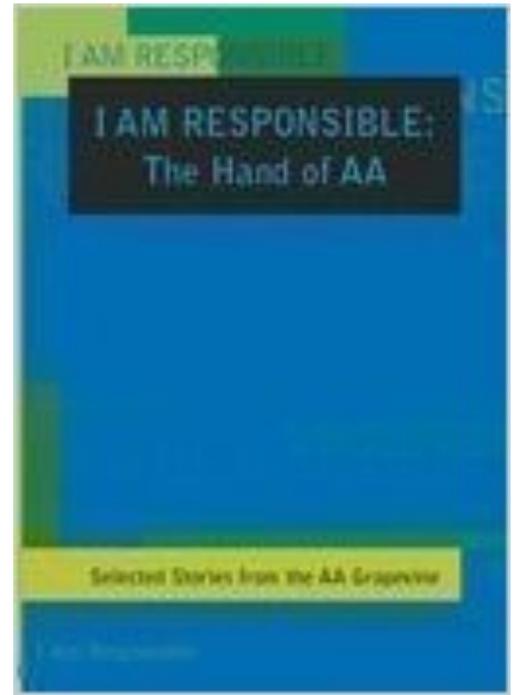
We have gained some understanding of the ancient words **“Freely ye have received, freely give.”** We have discovered that at the point of professionalism, **money and spirituality do not mix.** Almost no recovery from alcoholism has ever been brought about by the world’s best professionals, whether **medical or religious.** We do not decry professionalism in other fields, but we accept the sober fact that **it does not work for us.**

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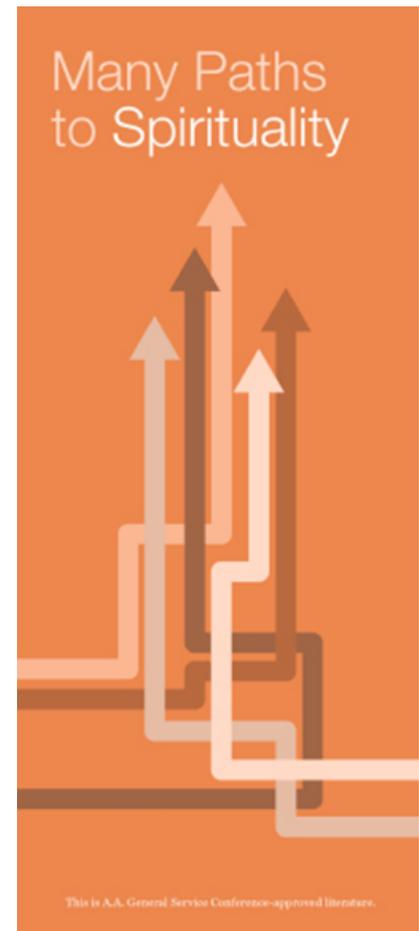
***“Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional, but our service centers may employ special workers.”***

As spiritual as A.A. is, there are things that have to be done that are more clerical than spiritual, phones that have to be answered, books that have to be shipped, and pamphlets that have to be edited and made ready to get to the printers. Often these jobs are done by people who have technical skills that are required to complete these tasks. These special workers are not doing twelfth step work, but they are just paving the way for us to do it. Whether it is somebody at the General Service Office preparing for next year’s General Service Conference or shipping Big Books to a member to give to a sponsee or at your local Intergroup preparing a meeting list to be printed, these are all jobs that help us to carry our message. It is our responsibility to see that they are paid a fair wage. We pay our own way, and these services are vital and necessary for us to do our twelfth step work. The essence of Alcoholics Anonymous will always be one alcoholic talking to another, but we need to always appreciate the special workers that help us to make that possible.

Jonathan Smith  
SWTA 68 – Alternate Delegate



Suggested Reading  
**Grapevine Book of the Month**



Suggested Reading  
**AA Pamphlet of the Month**

## Note From Your DCM

Over the last month throughout our District there has been a wave of concern about singleness of purpose in meetings. James Hurst, past Delegate, shared with me these quotes — from AA co-founder Bill W. : **AA Comes of Age**, pg. 232 : “Our society, therefore, will prudently cleave to its simple purpose: the carrying of the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.” **As Bill Sees It**, pg. 79: “This is why sobriety- freedom from alcohol- through the teaching and practice of AA’s twelve steps is the sole purpose of the group. If we don’t stick to this cardinal principle we shall almost certainly collapse. And if we collapse, we cannot help anyone.”

Hill Country Roundup is right around the corner—August 19-21 at Inn Of The Hills. Great speakers, wonderful fellowship, delicious food. Hope to see you there and don’t forget service—helping where you can—Registration, Raffle, Hospitality Room, and District openings, Hotline Crew, Grapevine Chair, Alt Secretary.

Next District meeting is August 19, 2016 Sunday at 720 Club, 980 Barnett St. Jonathan S., our Alt Delegate, will be there to share his experience, strength and hope.

In service— Sandy T., D.C.M.

# S.W.T.A. 68 PI/CPC Conference “Anonymous, Not Invisible”

Hosted by District 7  
September 9th and 10th, 2016



### Venue

Homewood Suites  
6705 N. E. Zac Lentz Pkwy  
Victoria, TX 77904

Reservations: (361) 578-1900  
Rooms: \$89.00 for King  
\$99.00 for Suite

Mention: PICPC Conf. for special rate  
Or reserve online at  
<http://homewoodsuites3.hilton.com>

Group code : PC6

Cutoff date Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>

Daily agenda will be available  
at a later date.

Luncheon with Professionals  
Friday, September 9th at noon.  
at Homewood Suites

A.A. Members' Luncheon cost:  
\$25.00

### For more information:

Mark K. 361-571-3995  
Joe S. 361-433-3141

Detach section below and mail it the following address:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/District: \_\_\_\_\_  
Group: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name on Badge: \_\_\_\_\_

### Mail to:

PI/CPC Registration, District 7  
PO Box 5324  
Victoria, TX 77903  
Pre-registration: \$8.00  
Registration at the event: \$10.00  
For Friday Luncheon: \$25.00

## Tradition Eight: Long Form

“Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. 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 may otherwise have to engage nonalcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But our usual A.A. ‘12 Step’ work is never to be paid for.”

# REGISTRATION

Name:	REGISTRATION = \$30.00
<hr/>	
Email:	
<hr/>	
Address:	
<hr/>	
City:	
<hr/>	
State:	Zip:
<hr/>	
T-shirt Size	T-SHIRTS = \$18.00 EACH
M L XL - Pink or Black	

Mail Registration & Payment To:

HILL COUNTRY ROUND UP  
P.O. BOX 293993  
KERRVILLE, TX 78029

OR

REGISTER ONLINE @

[www.hillcountryroundup.org](http://www.hillcountryroundup.org)

Scholarship Donations are Welcome.



*“The Road of Happy Destiny”*

**Inn of the Hills  
Kerrville, TX**

**August 19 - 21**

[www.hillcountryroundup.org](http://www.hillcountryroundup.org)

HILL COUNTRY ROUND UP  
P.O. BOX 293993  
KERRVILLE, TX 78029

# SCHEDULE

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

4:00 PM - Registration Begins  
Hospitality Room Opens  
6:00 - 7:00 PM - Pizza Dinner  
7:40 PM - Opening Ceremony  
7:45 PM - First Raffle  
8:00 PM - AA Speaker : Steve V.  
10:00 PM - Hospitality Room Closes

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

8:00 AM - Breakfast Tacos  
9:00 AM - Al-Anon Meeting  
10:15 AM - Raffle  
10:30 AM - AA Speaker : Amanda B.  
12:00 - 1:00 PM - Lunch Break  
1:15 PM - Raffle  
1:30 PM - Al-Anon Speaker : Maia P.  
2:45 PM - AA Workshop  
4:00 PM - Al-Anon Meeting  
5:00 - 6:00 PM - Tjajita Dinner  
6:00 PM - AA "Old Timers" Meeting  
7:30 PM - Raffle  
8:00 PM - AA Speaker : Clancy I.  
10:00 PM - Hospitality Room Closes

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

7:00 AM - Breakfast  
9:45 AM - Final Raffle  
10:00 AM - AA Speaker : Terri K.  
12:00 PM - Round Up Concludes

QUESTIONS? - EMAIL US  
[info@hillcountryroundup.org](mailto:info@hillcountryroundup.org)

# SPEAKERS



**Gayle S. - Kerrville, TX**



**Steve V. - Jacksonville, FL**



**Amanda B. - Montgomery, AL**



**Clancy I. - Venice, CA**



**Terri K. - Woodville, OH**



**Maia P. - Cedar Park, TX** Al-Anon Speaker

# RESERVATIONS



**800-292-5690**

Ask for "Hill Country Round Up Rates"  
Double Room with Breakfast  
\$91.00 per night plus tax  
Reservations Must Be Made BEFORE  
July 19, 2016 to receive Round Up Rates

**1001 JUNCTION HWY.  
KERRVILLE, TEXAS 78028**

# INFO

Started in 1975, this year's Round Up marks the 41st anniversary of a time-honored event, hosting 800-1,000 recovering persons from all over the state of Texas.

For 41 years, Round Up has provided a place for area alcoholics to fellowship, reconnect, listen to speakers, and enjoy some awesome food and fun.

This year we will have five Raffles, with prizes to include flat screen tvs, AA literature, and much more.

The Hospitality Room will be open all three days of the conference, offering free coffee, tea, lemonade, water, desserts, snacks and conversation.

## MEALS INCLUDED WITH REGISTRATION

### FRIDAY

Dinner - Pizza

### SATURDAY

Breakfast - Tacos

Dinner - Fajitas

### SUNDAY

Breakfast - Doughnuts

If your group has an event coming up and would like it in the newsletter, please contact:  
[PjmcDan@yahoo.com](mailto:PjmcDan@yahoo.com)

## Step Eight:

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

### I stole the wallet

Awkward and painful as it was, this amends had to be made

WHEN I grew up I had a favorite uncle whom I've come to believe was an alcoholic, just like me. I was always excited to be around this uncle. He drank and seemed to have a lot of fun. At one time, he was a deputy sheriff, and so he knew everyone from one end of the county to the other. The first time I drank was with him, and the first time I got really drunk was with him--at the ripe old age of 11.

I was 18 years old when I was drunk one Sunday night and broke, so I drove up to his place to see if I could borrow some money. I found both him and a man who was living with him passed out. I stole the wallet of the man living with him and left the house unnoticed.

This man blamed my uncle for stealing his money. The sheriff was called in. My uncle had worked for him and had drunk himself out of that job. It was very embarrassing and shameful for my uncle to go through that. Eventually, it blew over.

I left for the Marine Corps and tried to forget about the incident, but every now and then when I was back home I would think about it when I ran into my uncle. I felt a lot of guilt and shame when it came up in my thoughts, and I drank to make it go away. It was like a monkey on my back.

When I sobered up and was in treatment, this came up in my Fourth and Fifth Steps, so obviously it was on my Eighth Step list. It was meant to clear up the wreckage of my past so I didn't have to have it haunt me for the rest of my life.

My uncle, although a fun-loving man, had a very volatile temper. I was scared, to say the least, but I knew I had to make that amends. I met with him on a Saturday morning in his garage and brought up the incident. He remembered it as though it were yesterday. I told him that I was the one who stole the money. Believe me, I was extremely uncomfortable. It was very awkward for both of us. I was, you could say, the apple of his eye and we had done many things together, so it really took him for a loop. I asked my uncle for forgiveness and told him I was very sorry for the misery I had caused him.

He looked me right in the eye and said, "Lee, what's between us is between us, and that's the end of it." When I walked out of that garage I was a free man, released of the bondage of self. This gave me faith that I was on the right path and that this AA business worked.

Years later this same uncle was in an assisted care home. He needed help with his affairs but was strongly rejecting help, even from a very close brother, another uncle of mine. This other uncle asked me to help him. I met with my first uncle and told him we loved him and wanted to help him, but we needed his help to go through a power of attorney hearing. With much skepticism on the part of a court administrator and others, the next day we had the proceeding. I prayed for the strength to go through with this and was prepared for the worst, but everything went without a hitch and people walked out of the room shaking their heads. I put my arms around my uncle and just cried. I know that when I made that amends to him years before he knew I wouldn't lie to him and he trusted me to do the right thing. Six months later he passed away and my other uncle was able to handle the estate without any glitches. There's only one way this would have happened and that is with God's help and guidance.

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LEE C.J.Fargo, N.D.

**“SELF-SUPPORT: WHERE  
MONEY AND SPIRITUAL-  
ITY MIX”**

***WHERE TO SEND YOUR  
GROUP’S 7TH TRADI-  
TION CONTRIBUTIONS***

**DISTRICT LEVEL SUPPORT -**

DISTRICT 12 TREASURER  
P.O. BOX 290556  
KERRVILLE, TX 78029-0556

**AREA LEVEL SUPPORT -**

SWTA 68 TREASURER  
P.O. BOX 720651  
MCALLEN, TX 78504

**WORLD SERVICE SUPPORT -**

THE GENERAL SERVICE OFFICE  
GRAND CENTRAL STATION  
P.O. BOX 459 NEW YORK, NY  
10164-0423

**District 12 Trusted Servants**

DCM - Sandy T.  
Alt DCM - Tracy Mc.  
Treasurer - David S.  
Alt Treasurer - Brian M.  
Secretary - Sarah J.  
Alt Secretary- Whitney W.  
PICPC - Kathleen K.  
CFC - Marty M.  
H&I - Jim W.  
Newsletter- Patrick Mc.  
Grapevine- Paul H.  
Archives - Jayson J.  
Bilingual - Greg M.  
Webmaster - David H.

**SWTA 68 Panel 66 Area Officers &**

**Committee Chairs**

Delegate	Denise T.	delegate@aa-swta.org
Alt. Delegate	Jonathan S.	altdelegate@aa-swta.org
Chairperson	Michael P.	chairperson@aa-swta.org
Alt. Chair	Cathy H.	altchair@aa-swta.org
Area Registrar	Barbara R.	registrar@aa-swta.org
Secretary	Rae T.	secretary@aa-swta.org
Treasurer	Dean D.	treasurer@aa-swta.org
Archives	K.C. H.	archives@aa-swta.org
Grapevine/La Vina	Mari G.	grapevine@aa-swta.org
Treatment	Cherie R.	treatment@aa-swta.org
Bilingual	Mario R.	bilingual@aa-swta.org
Newsletter	Sonia D.	newsletter@aa-swta.org
Webmaster	Rob. C.	webmaster@aa-swta.org
C.F.C	Randall T.	cfc@aa-swta.org
P.I./C.P.C.	Larry L.	pi-cpc@aa-swta.org
SWTA 68 WEBSITE		http://www.aa-swta.org

**HELP WANTED**

Reach out to fellow AA’s in treatment facilities. “GIVE BACK WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN!” H&I sign-ups will be held at the 720 Club, Kerrville, TX 3rd Sunday of the Month

**WE NEED YOU! HELP CARRY THE MESSAGE BY SHARING YOUR STORY WITH THE DISTRICT! ALSO LOOKING FOR GROUP HISTORIES, UPCOMING GROUP EVENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS! REMEMBER, THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER! BE A PART OF IT! Contact:**

**Pjmcdan@yahoo.com**

# Grupo El Libro Azul

(The Blue Book Group)

## Reunión en Español

(Meeting in Spanish)

6:30 pm

## Todos los Martes

(Every Tuesday)

## En el Club 720

(At the 720 Club)

980 Barnett



## 2016 Fall Conference & Assembly

October 7-9, 2016

"Life Will Take on New Meaning"

**Omni Corpus Christi Hotel**  
900 N. Shoreline Blvd  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78401

**Rate:** \$ 121  
**Online Resv:** <http://www.omnihotels.com/>  
**Online Code:** 14500814057  
**Phone Resv:** (361) 887-1600  
**Phone Code:** SWTA68

**Reservation Cutoff: Sept. 3**

- **GSO Staff Jeff W. (CFC)** \* Area 68 Officer Reports
- **TDCJ Inmate Speaker** \* Area Committee Meeting
- **Hospitality Room** \* GSR Workshop
- **More...** \* Voting Proposals (possible)

For information or to volunteer, contact us at: [12steps@gmail.com](mailto:12steps@gmail.com) or (361) 739-1084

### PLEASE WEAR BADGES AT ALL CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

.....Mail-In Registration.....

1st Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge: \_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Conference Fee - \$15 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(No fee if only attending A68 business meeting)  
Voluntary Contributions, Area 68 - General Fund \_\_\_\_\_  
C.F.C. Fund \_\_\_\_\_  
Translation Equipment Fund \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: **District 8D Treasurer**  
**P.O. Box 61135**  
**Corpus Christi, TX 78466**