

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

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DISTRICT 12 NEWS-  
LETTER FOCUS — TO  
INFORM THE AA  
COMMUNITY OF IN-  
FORMATION PER-  
TAINING TO DIS-  
TRICT 12, AREA 68,  
AND GSO AND TO  
ENLARGE GROUP  
PARTICIPATION.

# THE STAND

Volume 10 Issue 6

June 2017

## Concept VI

***On behalf of AA, as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.***

While the final responsibility and ultimate authority for activities rest with the AA groups and are delegated to the Conference (Concept II), the trustees must have the delegated administrative authority to carry these out. The Trustees have the legal and practical responsibility for the operation of AA World Services (AAWS) and the AA Grapevine and are the guardians of the Twelve Traditions.

The conduct of our world services is primarily a matter of policy and business. Our Trustees must function almost exactly like directors of a large business organization. They must have ample authority to manage the AA's business. This is the basic corporate concept on which our structure of world services rests. Bill explains in Concept VI that the corporate form of government makes a clear effective transfer of authority to somebody who can take action. We, as a body, get to pick people that we trust to act in our best interest, which shifts the responsibility to the fellowship to pick good trusted servants.

Our Trustees, like any other board of directors, must be given large powers if they are to effectively manage the principal world affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous. While our "objective is always a spiritual one," nevertheless our world service is a large business operation.

Pam J.

"We have emphasized willingness as being indispensable. Are we now ready to let GOD remove from us all the things which we have admitted are objectionable? Can He now take them all — every one? If we still cling to something we will not let go, we ask God to help us be willing." *Alcoholics Anonymous* pg. 76

"There is a big difference between striving for a self-determined objective and for the perfect objective which is of God. The only urgent thing is that we make a beginning, and keep trying. We shall need to raise our eyes toward perfection, and be ready to walk in that direction. It will seldom matter how haltingly we walk. The only question will be "Are we ready?" It is suggested that we ought to become entirely willing to aim toward perfection. We note that some delay, however, might be pardoned. That word, in the mind of a rationalizing alcoholic, could certainly be given a long-term meaning. He could say, 'How very easy! Sure, I'll head toward perfection, but I'm certainly not going to hurry any. Maybe I can postpone dealing with some of my problems indefinitely.' Of course, this WON'T do. Such a bluffing of oneself will have to go the way of many another pleasant rationalization. At the very least, we shall HAVE TO come to grips with some of our worst character defects AND take action toward their removal as quickly as we can. The moment we say, 'No, never!' our minds close against the grace of God. Delay is dangerous, and rebellion may be FATAL. This is the exact point at which we abandon limited objectives, and move toward God's Will for us." *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, p. 56

## Tradition Six

***“An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.”***

These questions were originally published in the AA Grapevine in conjunction with a series on the Twelve Traditions that began in November 1969 and ran through September 1971. While they were originally intended primarily for individual use, many AA groups have since used them as a basis for wider discussion. Copyright © The [A.A. Grapevine, Inc.](#)

### **Tradition Six:**

- Should my fellow group members and I go out and raise money to endow several AA beds in our local hospital? Is it good for a group to lease a small building? Are all the officers and members of our local club for AAs familiar with "Guidelines on Clubs" (which is available free from GSO)?
- Should the secretary of our group serve on the mayor's advisory committee on alcoholism?
- Some alcoholics will stay around AA only if we have a TV and card room. If this is what is required to carry the message to them, should we have these facilities?

### Tradition Six: Long Form

.Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to A.A., such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name. Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A.- and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one.

#### **How does your group support newcomers?**

*Giving a newcomer a packet full of great AA info tailored just for them, along with a meeting list and phone numbers is a great start!*

**Public Information Committee has put these together for you to get you started.**

**Call or text Kathleen K. PI Chair, for more info.  
(830) 377-5890**

## Historical Data: The Birth of A.A (Part 3)

The following year witnessed still another significant event. The New York office had greatly expanded its activities, and these now consisted of public relations, advice to new groups, services to hospitals, prisons, Loners, and Internationalists, and cooperation with other agencies in the alcoholism field. The headquarters was also publishing "standard" A.A. books and pamphlets, and it supervised their translation into other tongues. Our international magazine, the A.A. Grapevine, had achieved a large circulation. These and many other activities had become indispensable for A.A. as a whole.

Nevertheless, these vital services were still in the hands of an isolated board of trustees, whose only link to the Fellowship had been Bill and Dr. Bob. As the co-founders had foreseen years earlier, it became absolutely necessary to link A.A.'s world trusteeship (now the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous) with the Fellowship that it served. Delegates from all states and provinces of the U.S. and Canada were forthwith called in. Thus composed, this body for world service first met in 1951. Despite earlier misgivings, the gathering was a great success. For the first time, the remote trusteeship became directly accountable to A.A. as a whole. The A.A. General Service Conference had been created, and A.A.'s over-all functioning was thereby assured for the future.

A second International Convention was held in St. Louis in 1955 to celebrate the Fellowship's 20th anniversary. The General Service Conference had by then completely proved its worth. Here, on behalf of A.A.'s old-timers, Bill turned the future care and custody of A.A. over to the Conference and its trustees. At this moment, the Fellowship went on its own; A.A. had come of age.

Had it not been for A.A.'s early friends, Alcoholics Anonymous might never have come into being. And without its host of well-wishers who have since given of their time and effort — particularly those friends of medicine, religion, and world communications — A.A. could never have grown and prospered. The Fellowship here records its constant gratitude.

It was on January 24, 1971, that Bill, a victim of pneumonia, died in Miami Beach, Florida, where — seven months earlier — he had delivered at the 35th Anniversary International Convention what proved to be his last words to fellow A.A.s: "God bless you and Alcoholics Anonymous forever."

Since then, A.A. has become truly global, and this has revealed that A.A.'s way of life can today transcend most barriers of race, creed and language. A World Service Meeting, started in 1969, has been held biennially since 1972. Its locations alternate between New York and overseas. It has met in London, England; Helsinki, Finland; San Juan del Rio, Mexico; Guatemala City, Guatemala; Munich, Germany; Cartagena, Colombia; Auckland, New Zealand; and Oviedo, Spain.

[http://www.aa.org/pages/en\\_US/historical-data-the-birth-of-aa-and-its-growth-in-the-uscanada](http://www.aa.org/pages/en_US/historical-data-the-birth-of-aa-and-its-growth-in-the-uscanada) Reprinted with permission

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

**Pjmedan@yahoo.com**

**Boerne Hwy Group**

**Last Friday of Each month 8:00 P.M. Birthday and Speaker and CAKE!!!**

## Step Six:

**“Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.”**

There is very little written in the Big Book on this step. It does, however, emphasize willingness: willingness as being indispensable, asking God to help us be willing.

During a recent Big Book study meeting I noticed the word *objectionable* in this paragraph on Step Six, p.76. My thinking began to rationalize my character defects. Well, if they are not objectionable and they work for me then I don't have to get rid of them. Right? The second half of that idea is that they cannot stand in the way of my usefulness to God and my fellows.

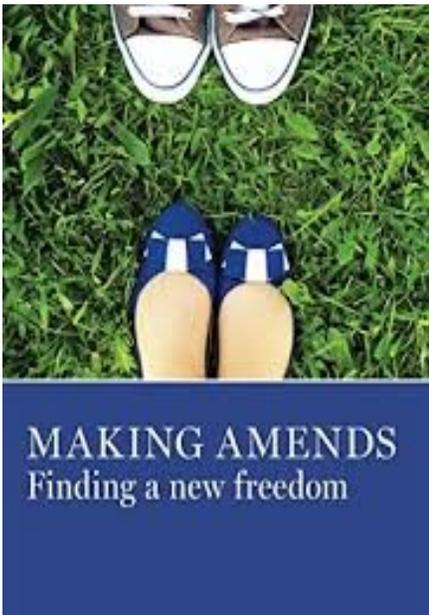
So, if I manipulate someone and it works for me, is that standing in the way of my usefulness?

If I control someone else and it works for me, is that objectionable?

If I don't admit that a character defect is objectionable, can I keep it?

I did the work in Step Four to determine these things that are objectionable and have caused me problems in my life. Now that I am aware of these defects I cannot ignore them and I must take action. The only way I can rid myself of these identified, objectionable defects of character is with God's help. That is why there is so little information on this step in the Big Book. It goes back to the willingness to have God remove these defects of character and to continue to ask for God's help in this matter. When these things crop up, it is time for prayer and time to ask for God's help. It is simple, short and sweet.

Madeline A., Kerrville



Suggested Reading  
**Grapevine Book of  
the Month**



Suggested Reading  
**AA CD of  
the Month**



Suggested Reading  
**Pamphlet of  
the Month**

**NEW BOOK  
AVAILABLE NOW**



## MAKING AMENDS

### Finding a new freedom

**\$11.50** Making Amends features 55 candid, firsthand stories from AA Grapevine magazine of members' experiences with Step Nine of the AA program. The book includes chapters on making amends to parents, children, family members, exes, financial institutions, friends and coworkers. These powerful stories illustrate how practicing Step Nine can help us, as AA's co-founder Bill W. wrote, "know a new freedom and a new happiness."

*(\$10.99 for 5 or more copies)*

**ORDER  
ONLINE!**

**ONLINE: [WWW.AAGRAPEVINE.ORG/BOOKS](http://WWW.AAGRAPEVINE.ORG/BOOKS)**

**PHONE: (800) 631-6025 (US/Canada), (818) 487-2091 (International)**

**AA District 12  
Texas Area 68**

24-Hour Help Line  
(800) 843-8800

HOME COMMUNITY MEETINGS ACTIVITIES SERVICE NEWSLETTERS CONTACTS

## Welcome to Alcoholics Anonymous Southwest Texas Area 68 - District 12

### WELCOME TO DISTRICT 12 ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

...serving Bandera, Gillespie, Kerr, Kendall, and Kimble counties in the hill country of Texas.

Anybody can look at the schedules and events here, but if you want the full benefits of the site as a District 12 A.A. member, **please** register and login. The more District 12 A.A. members who sign up, the more useful the site becomes!

### GET INVOLVED!

There are many opportunities to get help or to help other alcoholics in our district.

To learn more about service opportunities, [click here](#).

## Check out the **NEW WEBSITE!!**

**[www.aa12.org](http://www.aa12.org)**

The more who register,  
the more useful the website.

Post or Update Your Meetings!  
Post Events!

Everyone who registers can be notified!

## **Note From Your DCM**

### Upcoming Workshops/Voting Conferences and Assemblies/ District Meetings:

June 11, 2017: District meeting -- Denise T., Area Delegate, Presenter

June 9-11, 2017: 71st Annual Texas State Convention—San Antonio Omni at the Collonnade

July 9, 2017: District meeting -- Michael P., Area Chair, Presenter

July 14-16, 2017: Summer Workshop

August 13, 2017: Jonathan S, Area Alternate Delegate, Presenter

September 8-9, 2017: PI/CPC Workshop— Bastrop Best Western Bastrop Pines Inn

September 10 , 2017: District meeting — K. C. H., Area Archives Chair, Presenter

October 8, 2017 : District meeting — Rae T., Area Secretary, Presenter

October 13-15, 2017: Voting Conference & Assembly — Seguin, Tx

October 20-22, 2017: Southwest Regional Forum — San Antonio Marriot Northwest

November 12, 2017 : District meeting — Cathy H., Area Alternate Chair, Presenter

December 10, 2017 : District meeting

Yours in service, Sandy T. District 12 DCM

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### **Can't win**

Mike had not been communicating well with his wife lately, so he asked his buddy at work, Bill, how things were going at his house. Bill replied, "Fantastic! I give her a hug and a kiss when I go home. I tell her she looks good, and I compliment her on her cooking. She really appreciates all the attention I give her."

So Mike thought he'd give it a go. When he got home, he gave his wife a huge hug, kissed her, and told her that he loved her. His wife burst into tears. Mike was confused and asked why she was crying.

She said, "This is the worst day of my life. First, little Billy fell off his bike and twisted his ankle. Then, the washing machine broke and flooded the basement. And now, you come home drunk!"

*Richard M., Golden, Colo.*

### **One liner**

An alcoholic walks into a bar ...

... I can't remember the rest of it.

*Clint H., Lafayette, Ind. Grapevine, Inc. Reprinted with permission March 2013*

**“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- Clay S..  
PICPC - Kathleen K.  
CFC - Marty M.  
H&I - Jim W.  
Newsletter- Patrick Mc.  
Grapevine- Joseph N.  
Archives - Jayson J.  
Bilingual - Horatio 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	Sonya 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

# SWTA 68 SUMMER WORKSHOP

“There is a solution.”

## WHEN

July 14-16, 2017

## WHERE

**Braden Keller  
Community Center**

1410 Amelia Street  
Castroville, Texas 78009

**HOSTED BY DISTRICT 1E**

## LODGING:

### **HOTEL ALSACE**

1650 Old Hwy 90,  
Castroville, Texas  
78009

830-538-3200

Room rate/\$112.50  
CODE: SWTA68

### Other area hotels:

Best Western Hondo  
(rooms blocked for  
SWTA68)

301 US Hwy 90 E  
830-426-4466

Regency Inn Hondo  
401 US Hwy 90 E  
830-426-3031

Microtel Inn & Suites  
by Wyndham  
1605 West Loop 1604  
South San Antonio, TX

Contact information:  
Tegan  
830-931-5010