

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

**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Concept VI               | 1 |
| Tradition Six            | 2 |
| News From The DCM        | 3 |
| Notr zzfrom The Delegate | 4 |
| District 12 online       | 5 |
| Step Six                 | 6 |
| AA Contacts              | 7 |

**DISTRICT12 NEWS-  
LETTER FOCUS —  
TO INFORM THE  
AA COMMUNITY  
OF INFORMATION  
PERTAINING TO  
DISTRICT 12, AREA  
68, AND GSO AND  
TO ENLARGE  
GROUP PARTICI-  
PATION.**

# THE STAND

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 5

## June 2016

## Concept VI

**The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.**

Although A.A.'s primary purpose is spiritual in nature, A.A. is nevertheless a large corporation. Close to 80 salaried staff members work at our headquarters, contacts are made with suppliers, leases are signed, retirement benefits must be funded, copyrights are filed, public information is constantly provided, groups and potential members and professionals are all served – all paid for annually with millions of dollars contributed by the Fellowship and profits on the sale of literature.

The 21 trustees of the General Service Board [7 Class A's, non-alcoholics, and 14 Class B's, alcoholics] are all unpaid volunteers who give up large amounts of personal time to manage the legal and financial affairs of Alcoholics Anonymous. The trustees are responsible for the operation of the two wholly-owned corporations: Grapevine, Inc. and A.A. World Services, Inc.

Our Trustees are given very wide latitude of judgement and action, because the Fellowship is holding the Board mainly responsible for all of our service activities. While the Trustees must always operate under the close observation, guidance, and sometimes direction of the Conference [all of us], it is only the Board who can administer it's very large responsibilities. The conduct of our world services is a matter of policy and business. This is the basic corporate concept on which our structure of world services rests.

James H.

P64/A68 Southwest Texas

## Tradition Six

"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, everyone? If we still cling to something we will not let go, we ask God to help us be willing."

-A.A. Big Book p.76

"Looking again at those defects we are still unwilling to give up, we ought to erase the hard-and-fast lines that we STEP SIX have drawn. Perhaps we shall be obliged in some cases still to say, "This I cannot give up yet . . .," but we should not say to ourselves, "This I will never give up!"

12 and 12 pg.68

"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."

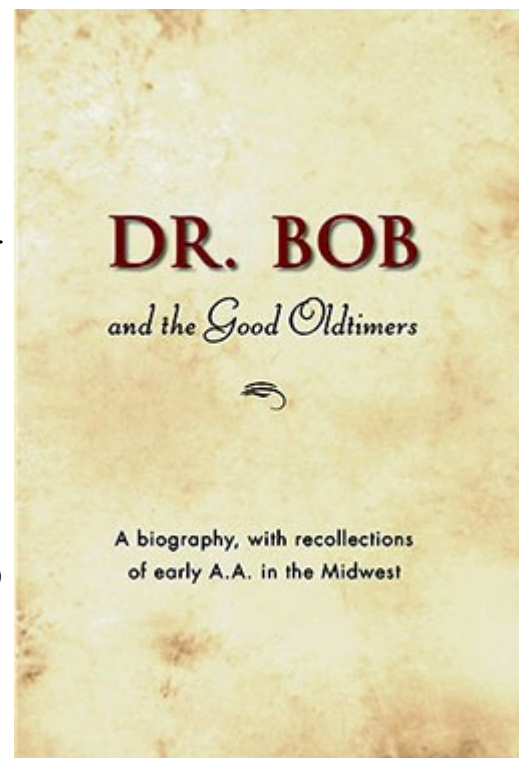
12 and 12 pg.69

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

Early on in the history of our fellowship, it was thought that since we had found an answer for our alcohol problem, maybe we could help answer a lot of other problems. A.A. groups might want to consider going into business and financing any enterprise in the field of alcoholism. We could open up hospitals just for alcoholics and use the profits to help us do our work. We could get into education and de-criminalization, and our honesty might help to clean up politics. But the early experience in trying to start "A.A." hospitals just didn't work. A.A. groups, just can't go into business; it starts up to much controversy. In no time at all, questions begin to be asked, is it medical or spiritual?, is it spiritual or religious? Are we a reform movement? Do we help drunks or educate? Thank goodness we have learned from those early experiences, that A.A. cannot be all things to all people, and nor should

we try. We also learned that cannot affiliate with any outside enterprise, but we should always be ready to cooperate, and thus help people to find our fellowship. It is our responsibility to never let anything divert us from carrying our message to the still suffering alcoholic.

Gratitude in service,  
Jonathan Smith  
SWTA 68 – Alternate Delegate



Suggested Reading  
**AA Book of the Month**

## NOTE FROM THE DCM

District 12 wants to give a big thank-you to our SWTA68/ Panel 66 Delegate, **Denise T.** for coming to Kerrville and presenting an excellent Delegate's Report at the District 12 meeting in May.

We also want to extend a warm welcome to Cathy H, the Area Alternate Chairperson, to the District 12 June meeting at the 720 Club on June 12, 2016. We are looking forward to the information that she will be sharing with us.

Sandy T. District 12 DCM



# 70th Annual Texas State AA Convention Austin, TX

## June 24 - June 26, 2016

### *Great Events Will Come to Pass...*



#### AA Speakers:

John H. - Sanford, FL  
Astrid H. - Granada Hills, CA  
Rose E. - Spring Hill, FL  
Matthew M. - Port Orchard, WA  
Michealine F. - Escondido, CA

#### Al-Anon Speaker:

Jenny P. - Eureka Springs, AR

#### G.S.O. Speaker:

Racy J. - New York City, NY

#### DoubleTree Hotel

6505 N. Interstate 35  
Austin, TX 78752  
(512) 454-3737

Room Rate: \$109 (Group code SCA)

**BADGES ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL CONVENTION EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

Register Online at: [www.txaaconvention.org](http://www.txaaconvention.org)

For information or to be of service contact us at: [AustinAA2016@Gmail.com](mailto:AustinAA2016@Gmail.com)

..... MAIL IN REGISTRATION.....

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Registrant

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Badge Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

|  |                 |             |
|--|-----------------|-------------|
| AA Registration \$35 Each              | \$ _____        | Cash        |
| Al-Anon Registration \$35 Each         | \$ _____        | Check       |
| Registration Donation for Scholarships | \$ _____        | Credit Card |
| <b>TOTAL \$</b>                        | <b>\$ _____</b> |             |

Make checks payable to: Texas State AA Convention  
P.O. Box 8425  
Round Rock, TX 78683

## **Tradition Six: Long Form**

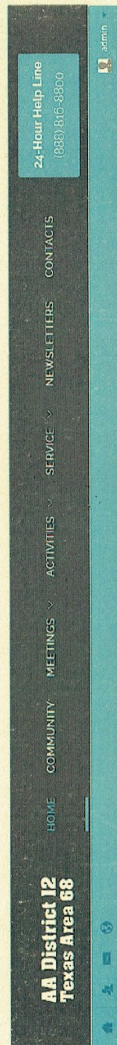
Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never 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 to go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one.

## **Note From The Delegate**

Hello District 12! Thank you for the loving invitation to bring a General Service Conference report to you District meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup>! The turnout was amazing and I was so grateful to share the “New York City experience” and highlight some of the Action items with you all! Your district’s enthusiasm for service to the alcoholic who still suffers was quite palpable! For those of you who were there and to those who may have missed it, here is a recap of some of the highlights from the 2016 General Service Conference: there is a new Corrections video aimed at the incarcerated alcoholic new-comer titled ‘A New Freedom’ (replaces the existing video ‘It Sure Beats Sitting In a Cell”); the Conference ‘took no action’ on the development of a ‘plain language’ Big Book; the pamphlet ‘Three Talks to Medical Societies’ pamphlet will not be discontinued; an introductory paragraph for professionals will be added to the pamphlet “Problems Other Than Alcohol” that clarifies that while the language in this pamphlet may be dated, the issues are still prevalent today – a draft of this pamphlet will be brought back to the 2017 Conference; and drafts proposals regarding implementation of a Google-for-Non- Profits and Twitter accounts be developed and brought back to the 2017 General Service Conference with the proposed intent to use these platforms as a means of circulating information about Alcoholics Anonymous, but not for communication as we currently understand it in the social media sense. I will be giving a full Conference report at the Summer Workshop in Round Rock July 8-10. Check out the SWTA 68 Newsletter or [aa-swta.org](http://aa-swta.org) for the flyer and the agenda for this event and more. Thank you all for your service...

Love and Service, Denise Thorn





# 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!

**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](mailto:Pjmcdan@yahoo.com)**

## 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

## **Step Six : “Step Six Re-examined”**

**“Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character”**

**The more he practiced the Step, the greater the rewards**

This has been the greatest challenge I have had to face. Self-centered fear combined with resentment and anger shape a formidable triangle of self-obsession. The character defects I have are manifestations of this obsessiveness. One of my personal favorites is self-loathing.

I prefer this to self-pity as it satisfies a need for machismo and martyrdom. In order to pick up the tools of spirituality, I have to put down the weapons of self. This is a difficult and ongoing task for me. I choose the action I am learning as a new path of light. I committed to not drink or use drugs no matter what.

Then I knelt and prayed. I studied the literature of the program. I went to a meeting of AA and I fellowshiped with others.

A complete psychic change is what I must undergo, each day, for this is the only gift I am given. I must use discipline, communication, humility, compassion, and simplicity as tools to bolster my spiritual condition.

The Sixth Step is sometimes called "the last preparation step." For me, it is that and much more. It is also the road to happy destiny that passes beneath the arch of freedom from alcoholism. The archway is build of the preceding five Steps.

But this is just a small part of the Sixth Step. The more thoroughly I work this Step, the greater the fruits that are shown me—not just freedom and joy, but a happiness born of serenity. And a serenity born of living in the now—the most precious grace given me by my higher power.

I define "grace" as undeserved favor. This undeserved favor serves as a blueprint for an unconditional love necessary for true self-worth. Self worth, in turn, allows for living as I want to live, not as if I want to die. Self-worth allows for living life, enjoying life, and sharing my enjoyment of life.

—Jason C., Blacksburg, Vir.

Grapevine Online A.A. Grapevine, Inc. Reprinted with per-

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

“There are those who predict that A.A. may well become a new spearhead for a spiritual awakening throughout the world. When our friends say these things, they are both generous and sincere. But we of A.A. must reflect that such a tribute and such a prophecy could well prove to be a heady drink for most of us – that is, if we really came to believe this to be the real purpose of A.A., and if we commenced to behave accordingly. Our Society, therefore, will **prudently cleave to its single purpose:** the carrying of the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. *Let us resist the proud assumption that since God has enabled us to do well in one area we are destined to be a channel of saving grace for everybody.*”

**AA Comes of Age, page 232**

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





# 2016 SWTA 68 Summer Workshop

**July 8—10 , 2016**

Hosted by District 22

*"A great sense of purpose..." p. 130*



1209 Interstate 35 Frontage Road

Round Rock, TX. 78664

512-341-7000