

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

INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

Concept IX	1
Tradition IX Check- list	2
District 12 Work- shop	3
Step Nine	4
Note From The DCM	6
AA Contacts	7

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 9

September 2017

Concept IX

“Good service leaders, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety. The primary world service leadership once exercised by the founders of A.A. must necessarily be assumed by the Trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.”

Concept Nine is about the leadership of A.A. Some members of A.A. may think that since A.A. has a very different structure than other organizations there are no “leaders” in A.A. Nothing could be further from the truth! Leaders in A.A. are those who, through their actions and their example, inspire us to follow them. It is true that no one can lead if there is no one who will follow them.

Leadership in A.A. is a vital necessity. It starts with the groups GSRs who elect the Area trusted servants: the Area’s Delegates and Trustee candidates. The Areas choose the candidates for Regional Trustee and Trustee at Large and submit the names through their Delegates. Sometimes these nominees are chosen based on personal and professional accomplishments, but most often they are chosen based on their record of service within their groups, districts and areas. As GSRs and Area Committee Members when we choose a nominee for Trustee we are participating directly in choosing the leadership of Alcoholics Anonymous!

At the General Service Conference the Delegates, acting as the effective voice of the group conscience, choose the General Service Trustees who form the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous. This Board is entrusted with operational leadership and oversight of A.A. World Services and the Grapevine.

What about “Class A” trustees? These are non-alcoholics who volunteer to serve A.A. on our General Service Board. They, too, are nominated from within the fellowship. These nominations most frequently come from Area Delegates who have learned of their unique qualifications and willingness to serve. These are most often members of professions with whom A.A. cooperates (medical, legal, financial, or religious leaders) who have demonstrated their willingness to lend their time and talents to A.A.

Over the next couple of months, the groups and districts in our Area, SWTA 68, will be electing new trusted servants: GSRs, DCMs and Delegate. Bill W. wrote an article in the April 1959 Grapevine entitled *Leadership in A.A.: Ever a Vital Need*. The full article can be found on page 36 of *Twelve Concepts for World Service* and I would encourage everyone to read this article. In this article, Bill W. describes what specific personal qualities a world service leader ought to have.

“We thank God that Alcoholics Anonymous is blessed with so much leadership in all of its affairs” (Twelve Concepts for World Service, p. 40).

Pam J.

Quotes on Step 9

"Probably there are still some misgivings. As we look over the list of business acquaintances and friends we have hurt, we may feel diffident about going to some of them on a spiritual basis. Let us be reassured. To some people we need not, and probably should not emphasize the spiritual feature on our first approach. We might prejudice them. At the moment we are trying to put our lives in order. But this is not an end in itself. Our real purpose is to fit ourselves to be of maximum service to God and the people about us."

Alcoholics Anonymous pg. 76

"It is seldom wise to approach an individual, who still smarts from our injustice to him, and announce that we have gone religious. In the prize ring, this would be called leading with the chin. Why lay ourselves open to being branded fanatics or religious bores? We may kill a future opportunity to carry a beneficial message. But our man is sure to be impressed with a sincere desire to set right the wrong. He is going to be more interested in a demonstration of good will than in our talk of spiritual discoveries.

We don't use this as an excuse for shying away from the subject of God. When it will serve any good purpose, we are willing to announce our convictions with tact and common sense."

Alcoholics Anonymous pg. 77

"Yes, there is a long period of reconstruction ahead. We must take the lead. A remorseful mumbling that we are sorry won't fill the bill at all. We ought to sit down with the family and frankly analyze the past as we now see it, being very careful not to criticize them. Their defects may be glaring, but the chances are that our own actions are partly responsible. So we clean house with the family, asking each morning in meditation that our Creator show us the way of patience, tolerance, kindness and love.

Alcoholics Anonymous pg. 83

Tradition Nine

"AA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve."

Do I still try to boss things in AA?

Do I resist formal aspects of AA because I fear them as authoritative?

Am I mature enough to understand and use all elements of the AA program – even if no one makes me do so – with a sense of personal responsibility?

Do I exercise patience and humility in any AA job I take?

Am I aware of all those to whom I am responsible in any AA job?

Why doesn't every AA group need a constitution and by-laws?

Have I learned to step out of an AA job gracefully – and profit thereby – when the time comes?

What has rotation to do with anonymity? With humility?

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**

Tradition Nine: Long Form

Each A.A. group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the large group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central or intergroup committee, which often employs a full-time secretary. The trustees of the General Service Board are, in effect, our A.A. General Service Committee. They are the custodians of our A.A. Tradition and the receivers of voluntary A.A. contributions by which we maintain our A.A. General Service Office at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our over-all public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principle newspaper, the A.A. Grapevine. All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in A.A. are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles; they do not govern. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.

District 12 is having a **Workshop!**



On Saturday, September 23rd District 12 will be hosting a workshop from 11:30 until 4:00.

The workshop will begin, as all workshops should, with a Barbeque lunch.

After chowing down on brisket, sausage, smoked turkey, and sides; there will be speakers and an *Ask It Basket* to entertain and enlighten us on the topics: Home Group, Sponsorship, and Service Structure.

So, come join us at:

The Outpost
3449 Junction Hwy.
Ingram, TX

Or, if you would like more
information or have any questions
just send us an email.

info@aa12.org

Remember folks, It's all about:

Food, Fun and Fellowship!

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

PjmcDan@yahoo.com

Boerne Hwy Group

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

Step Nine:

“Made direct amends to such people, wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others .”

I was seven years sober and heading back to my home state when I was encouraged by a long-time member and close friend to look up my father. My dad and I have had a less than good relationship. For the past 30 years, we have only seen or spoken with each other a dozen or so times.

My friend knew I had to face these difficulties surrounding my father. So in the summer of 2000, I drove 200 miles away, without a phone number or address, and pulled into Bozeman, Mont. I looked in the phone book, found my father's name and called him. He answered. When I said, "Hello," he promptly replied, "What do you want?" I expressed my need to speak with him and assured him it wouldn't take long.

Within 15 minutes, I found myself on my dad's front porch. As I tried to clean my side of the street, he said some very nasty, ugly things to me. I finished my amend and was back on the road within a half hour. While driving away from his house I felt extremely proud of myself, because I did not get caught up in the same old behavior. It was not until later that I realized it wasn't that I was proud, it was that I had been humbled by the program.

Four years later, I was standing at work on a loading dock when my phone rang. I answered, and much to my surprise, I heard a voice saying, "Happy birthday, son." I talked with my father for about 20 minutes.

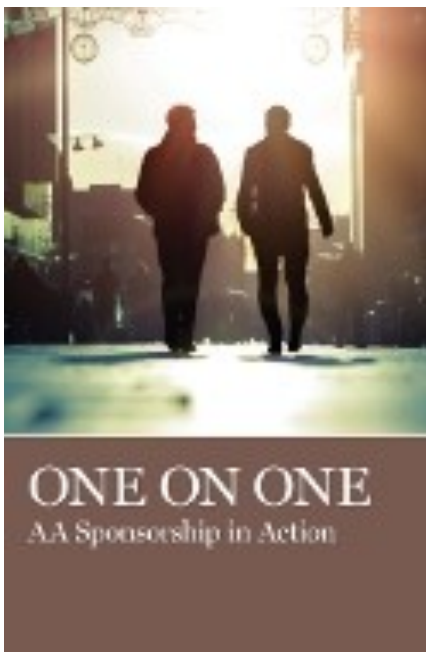
Later that same evening, I shared this experience with my daughter. She told me she would like to meet him. Five months later, we were visiting my dad and his wife for the first time in 15 years. My daughter and I now travel to Montana every summer to visit him, and I speak with him quite often.

Because of the actions I have taken in Alcoholics Anonymous, the father I despised has become the dad I could love.

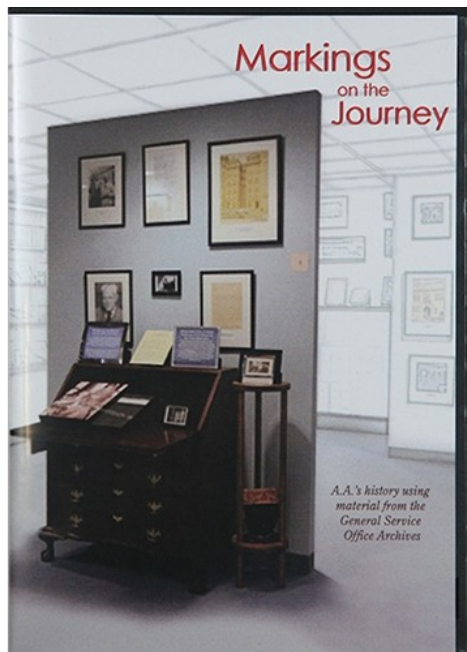
Smoochie Tacoma, Washington Grapevine, Inc. Reprinted with permission March 2013

I

C.



**Suggested Reading
Grapevine Book of
the Month**

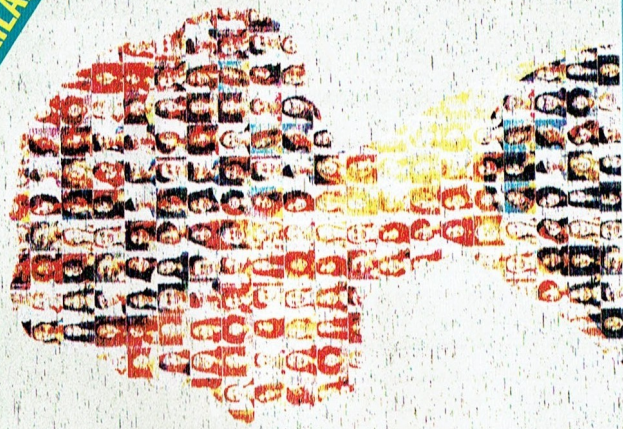


**Suggested Reading
AA dvd of
the Month**



**Suggested Reading
Pamphlet of
the Month**

NEW BOOK
AVAILABLE SEPT 1ST



VOICES OF WOMEN IN AA

Stories of experience, strength
and hope from Grapevine

\$11.50 *Voices of Women in AA* is a collection of 61 stories from Grapevine. The book begins with articles by or about women who contributed to AA early in its history, followed by stories by some of the program's earliest female members. Sections are devoted to spirituality, sponsorship, life changes, relationships, family, careers and friendships. The collection concludes with a chapter devoted to women's meetings. The stories demonstrate the various ways women alcoholics, often with great courage, find sobriety in AA and embrace the program to live rich and rewarding lives.

ORDER
ONLINE!

ONLINE: WWW.AAGRAPEVINE.ORG/BOOKS
PHONE: (800) 631-6025 (US/Canada), (818) 487-2091 (International)

AA District 12
Texas Area 68

HOME COMMUNITY MEETINGS ACTIVITIES SERVICE NEWSLETTERS CONTACTS

24 Hour Help Line
(800) 840-5800

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

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

The 42nd Annual Hill Country Roundup was a great success. Over 750 men and women were in attendance for fabulous speakers, Archives, Grapevine, delicious food and wonderful fellowship. Some changes were made from the previous years to add more for everyone. Thanks to all the volunteers, because without you there would be no Roundup. September 13, 2017 (Wednesday) will be the last Roundup meeting of 2017 to close out the year. If you would like to volunteer to be on the 2018 43rd Annual Hill Country Roundup Committee, please join us at 5:30 at Turner House, 114 Texas Circle.

September 23, 2017 (Saturday) will be the District 12 Workshop at the Outpost, 3449 Junction Hwy, Ingram, TX from 12:00 to 4:00. We will have lunch first, then have 3 1-hour segments on topics—Sponsorship, Home Groups,, and the Service Structure. After a 15 minute presentation, we will have an ask-it-basket where you can ask any questions. The District 12 Workshop Committee has worked very hard to make this a workshop you won't forget.

October is going to be a very busy month. The next District 12 Meeting will be October 8, 2017 at the 720 Club at 2:00. Rae T., Area Secretary, will be here to share.

Next-

Fall 2017 SWTA68 Voting Conference October 13—15, 2017

Knights of Columbus Hall

114 N. Austin St.

Seguin, Texas 78155

and

2017 Southwest Regional Forum October 20—22, 2017

San Antonio Marriot NW

3233 N.W. Loop 410 at Cherry Ridge

San Antonio, Texas 78213-2866 (210)377-3900

Yours in service, Sandy T. District 12 DCM

Upcoming Workshops/Voting Conferences and Assemblies/ District Meetings:

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

**“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 MES-
SAGE BY SHARING YOUR STORY WITH
THE DISTRICT! ALSO LOOKING FOR
GROUP HISTORIES, UPCOMING GROUP
EVENTS, AND SUGGESTIONS! REMEM-
BER, 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