

# The Stand

Volume 11 Issue 12

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The official newsletter of the Southwest Texas Area 68, District 12 of A.A.

1944

*Yes, it's in the air! The spirit of Christmas once more warms this poor distraught world. Over the whole globe millions are looking forward to that one day when strife can be forgotten, when it will be remembered that all human beings, even the least are loved by God, when men will hope for the coming of the Prince of Peace as they never hoped before.*

*But there is another world which is not poor. Neither is it distraught. It is the world of Alcoholics Anonymous, where thousands dwell happily and secure. Secure because each of us, in his own way, knows a greater power who is love, who is just, and who can be trusted.*

*Nor can men and women of AA ever forget that only through suffering did they find enough humility to enter the portals of that New World.*

*How privileged we are to understand so well the divine paradox that strength rises from weakness, that humiliation goes before resurrection, that pain is not only the price but the very touchstone of spiritual rebirth.*

*Knowing its full worth and purpose, we can no longer fear adversity, we have found prosperity where there was poverty, peace and joy have spring out of the very midst of chaos.*

*Great indeed, our blessings! And so, - Merry Christmas to you all-from the Trustees, from Bobbie and from Lois and me.*

*Bill Wilson*

*Happy Holidays from District 12*

# The Stand

DCM Report for November 2018

Hello district 12! I hope this finds you all well, serene and happy!

The outgoing archives chair (Marty M) and I met about the archives he has been housing for us. In the end, I have possession of the tubs, no surprise there. Along with the open position we need to fill, we still need to revisit what to do with this information. So, I have invited the SWTA 68 Archives chair, Daniel Balentine, to come visit with us, perhaps he has some suggestions.

I have also been to visit some groups, and am going to design a spread sheet that can be used gather and retain information about their monies being used to help the next suffering alcoholic.

Yours in Service

Tracy McFalls

## **December 6, 2018**

"Experience is what you get when you don't get what you want."

"Heard at Meetings," Tukwila, Washington, July 2005, AA Grapevine

**If you want to see you first name and last initial in print  
Write me for inclusion in the next Newsletter  
ibrrcmad@aol.com**

**Come and sign up to carry the message**

**To the Treatment Centers**

**Sign up is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun of the month at**

**720 Club at 3:00 pm**

# The Stand

## TRADITIONS CHECKLIST

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.

### **Tradition Twelve**

***Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.***

Why is it a good idea for me to place the common welfare of all AA members before individual welfare? What would happen to me if AA as a whole disappeared?

When I do not trust AA's current servants, who do I wish had the authority to straighten them out?

In my opinions of and remarks about other AAs, am I implying membership requirements other than a desire to stay sober?

Do I ever try to get a certain AA group to conform to my standards, not its own?

Have I a personal responsibility in helping an AA group fulfill its primary purpose? What is my part?

Does my personal behavior reflect the Sixth Tradition – or belie it?

Do I do all I can to support AA financially? When is the last time I anonymously gave away a Grapevine subscription?

Do I complain about certain AAs' behavior – especially if they are paid to work for AA?

Who made me so smart?

Do I fulfill all AA responsibilities in such a way as to please privately even my own conscience? Really?

Do my utterances always reflect the Tenth Tradition, or do I give AA critics real ammunition?

Should I keep my AA membership a secret, or reveal it in private conversation when that may help another alcoholic (and therefore me)? Is my brand of AA so attractive that other drunks want it?

What is the real importance of me among millions of A.A.s?

## Upcoming Events

**SWTA Winter Workshop**  
**January 18-20, 2019**  
**Uvalde, Texas**  
**Details on [swta68.org](http://swta68.org)**

# The Stand

## Step 12

*“Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.”*

The joy of living is the theme of A.A.’s Twelfth Step, and action is its key word. Here we turn outward toward our fellow alcoholics who are still in distress. Here we experience the kind of giving that asks no rewards. Here we begin to practice all Twelve Steps of the program in our daily lives so that we and those about us may find emotional sobriety. When the Twelfth Step is seen in its full implication, it is really talking about the kind of love that has no price tag on it.

Our Twelfth Step also says that as a result of practicing all the Steps, we have each found something called a spiritual awakening. To new A.A.’s this often seems like a very dubious and improbable state of affairs.

When a man or woman has a spiritual awakening, the most important meaning of it is that he has now become able to do, feel and believe that which he could not do before on his unaided strength and resources alone. He has been granted a gift which amounts to a new state of consciousness and being.

### District Servants

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

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# The Stand

## Concept 12

*General Warranties of the Conference: In all it's proceedings, the General Service Conference shall observe the spirit of the A.A. Tradition, taking great care that the conference never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, be it's prudent financial principle; that none of the Conference Members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others; that all important decisions be reached by discussion vote and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that no Conference action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; that though the Conference may act for the service of Alcoholics Anonymous which it serves, the Conference itself will always remain democratic in thought and action.*

This Concept consists of the General Warranties of the General Service Conference. It is cast in stone; that is, although Bill leaves the door open for alterations and changes in the other Concepts and points out that the rest of the Conference Charter "can be readily amended," these general Warranties-like the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions-be changed only by "written consent of three-quarters of all A.A. groups" in the world!

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