

The Stand

Volume 11 Issue 6

April 2019

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

March 28, 2019, Grapevine Quote of the Day

"One of the first insights Dr. Bob and I shared was that all true communication must be founded on mutual need. Never could we talk down to anyone, certainly not to a fellow alcoholic. We saw that each sponsor would have to humbly admit his own needs as clearly as those of his prospect."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., July 1960, "The Language of the Heart", The Language of the Heart

Pioneer Women of A.A.

Marie Bray wrote the first edition Big Book story, "An Alcoholic's Wife." She was the wife of Walter Bray, an early Cleveland AA member. Walter was the first officially registered alcoholic patient of Dr. Bob and Sister Ignatia who labeled his problem as acute gastritis and put Walter in the Flower Room of St. Thomas Hospital. Some say that Marie wrote the chapter in the Big Book called, "To Wives."

Caroline was the sister of Dorothy Snyder (wife of Clarence Snyder, sponsee of Dr. Bob, wrote "Home Brewmeister") and the wife of Hank Parkhurst. She took a copy of the Big Book to a Chicago doctor.

Annie Collohouse wrote the second edition Big Book story, "Annie the Cop Fighter."

Sybil Corwin was the first woman west of the Mississippi River to get sober in AA. She came to AA after reading the Jack Alexander March 1, 1941 article in the Saturday Evening Post about AA. When her non-alcoholic husband Dick Maxwell became jealous of her activities with AA and suggested she start drinking again, she left him and a life of luxury. She said AA just had to come first with her. She was the first executive secretary of the Los Angeles Central Service Office and held that position for 12 years.

Henrietta Dotson was the wife of AA Number Three, Bill Dotson. She was close friends with Anne Smith. She worked as the matron at Akron City Workhouse for 22 years and helped carry AA's message to female alcoholics incarcerated there.

The Stand

Pioneer Women in AA

Nancy Flynn wrote the second edition Big Book story, "The Independent Blonde."

Sister Francis was a devoted and enthusiastic friend of AA and Bill and Lois Wilson. She owned and operated Joy Farm, a drying-out place in Kent, Connecticut where many AA's from New York and Connecticut sobered up.

Countess Felicia Gizycka wrote the second edition Big Book story, "Stars Don't Fall."

Ruth Hock was the non-alcoholic secretary of Bill Wilson and Hank Parkhurst and AA's first secretary and office manager from 1936 until 1942. She typed the Big Book while Bill was dictating from his notes. Ruth's picture appeared in the Jack Alexander March 1, 1941 Saturday Evening Post article. She was presented with the five millionth copy of the Big Book at the 8th International AA Convention in Montreal, Canada in 1985. She died a year later.

Sister Mary Ignatia and Dr. Bob treated over 5,000 alcoholics at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron, Ohio. She is considered to be a spiritual cofounder of AA. She was called "The Angel of Alcoholics Anonymous." She pioneered the first alcoholism ward utilizing Alcoholics Anonymous philosophy in Akron in 1939. She spoke to Dr. Bob's wife Ann almost daily as they helped many of Akron's alcoholic women.

Sylvia Kauffman wrote the second edition Big Book story, "The Keys to the Kingdom." She was a glamorous divorcee with a \$700 a month alimony. She was one of the two women in The Chicago group in 1939. Dr. Bob, Clarence and Dorothy Snyder worked with her.

Wynn Laws wrote the second edition Big Book story, "Freedom from Bondage."

Ethel Macy wrote the second edition Big Book story, "From Farm to City." She was the first woman in AA in Akron to stay sober any length of time. She joined AA in May of 1941.

If you have a drinking problem and want help

Call the helpline any time

210 828-6325

The Stand

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS on line

aaonlinemeeting is an English speaking Skype based online Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meeting.

Skype AA meetings operate similarly to face-to-face meetings. Our purpose is to carry the message of recovery to the alcoholic who still suffers. We use a Skype conference call, audio only, no video. Like AA meetings everywhere, there are a wide variety of members. Being Skype based, participants log on from all over the world. We have AA meetings every day.

All meetings are open meetings (anyone may come and listen, but please do not share if you are not an alcoholic).

<http://www.aaonlinemeeting.net/>

**Send good news about your group's
Special events, speaker meetings,
Celebrations to put in the newsletter!
ibrrcmad@aol.com**

2019 - National AA Technology Workshop

September 20-22, 2019

in Bowling Green, KY

[Register for the Workshop online now!](#)

Hotel Registration info.

Holiday Inn, University Plaza, Bowling Green, KY

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Step Four

“Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.”

Step Four is our vigorous and painstaking effort to discover our liabilities. We want to find out exactly how and where our natural desires have warped us. We wish to look squarely at the unhappiness this has caused others and ourselves. By discovering what our emotional deformities are, we can move toward their correction. Without a willing and persistent effort to do this, there can be little sobriety or contentment for us. Without a searching and fearless moral inventory, most of us have found that the faith, which really works in daily living is still out of reach.

Tradition Four

“Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole”

Autonomy in relation to us, means very simply that every A.A. group can manage its affairs exactly as it pleases, except when A.A. as a whole is threatened. Over the years, every conceivable deviation from our Twelve Steps and Traditions has been tried.

When A.A.’s Traditions were first published, in 1946, we had become sure that an A.A. group could stand almost any amount of battering. We saw that the group, exactly like the individual, must eventually conform to whatever tested principles would guarantee survival. Sobriety had to be the group’s sole objective. In all other respects there was perfect freedom of will and action.

Concept Four

“Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional “Right of Participation,” taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.”

The principle of “Right of Participation” is built into the General Service Conference through the Conference Charter. Voting members include not only delegates, but also the trustees and the directors and staff members of A.A. World Services (i.e., GSO.) and the AA Grapevine.

In the same way, the boards of these two operating entities include as voting members not only trustees, but also non trustee directors and paid administrators and staff members.

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“SELF-SUPPORT: WHERE MONEY AND SPIRITUALITY MIX”

DISTRICT LEVEL SUPPORT -

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

AREA LEVEL SUPPORT -

SWTA 68 TREASURER P.O. BOX
3136 EARLY, TX 76803

WORLD SERVICE SUPPORT -

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

District 12 Trusted Servants

DCM- Tracy M
Alt DCM-Kathleen K
Secretary-Mary Alice
Alt Secretary-Courtney
Treasurer-Al P
Alt Treasurer-Patrick M
PI/CPC-Robert S
TFC-Brian B
CFC-Kara G
Newsletter-Maddy A
Archives-Lara S
Grapevine-Joseph N
Webmaster-Sam L

www.aa12.org

**If you would like to carry the message to Treatment
Centers please come and sign up on the
2nd Sunday of the month at 720 Club at 4:00 pm**

**If you haven't done so, sign up on the District 12
Website. The meeting schedule for our district
Is on the website and meetings have to be validated
annually or they fall off the schedule. Please help keep the
schedule up to date.**

www.aa12.org

The Stand

Hello District 12!

It has been a crazy, busy time this last month! I physically moved my two bedroom apartment back into my mother's home. So between that and trying to keep up with DCM duties, fielding phone calls and emails, exhaustion somewhat set in. Just taking care of myself (and that's a real good thing and very important) has been a challenge.

I was able to attend the SWTA Area 68 Spring Assembly this month, just last weekend. It was an exciting, a little fearful, assembly for me, as it was my first time at the podium. I gave a talk on concept #5 and was also a Mock conference committee chair person, guiding the group all the way through the process, to an end. Our agenda request was to add two questions to the AA Pamphlet. "Do you feel safe coming to the group?" and "Are the groups members treated with respect"? Our recommendation was to "take no action" based on the fact the questions were already addressed in the pamphlet on questions 10 and 8.

We covered a lot of information this weekend, and we also voted on 4 proposals.

Happy Trails
In love and service,

Tracy

Save the Dates:

Texas State Convention
June 7-9 in Houston, TX

2019 SWTA 68 Summer Workshop
July 26-28 in Bastrop, TX

2019 Southwest Regional Forum
October 11-13, Houston, TX

2019 SWTA Fall Voting Assembly
October 18-20, San Antonio, TX