

The Stand

Volume 12 Issue 5

May 2019

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

Tradition 5

Each group has but one primary purpose--to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Have you ever gone to an AA meeting and felt like you just walked into a therapy session? The principles of our fellowship tells us that we are to carry the message to those who still suffer from Alcoholism. As our world has changed and more and more people are coming into our meetings, are we doing a good job carrying the message to the alcoholic or are we allowing issues other than alcohol to become a major part of our meeting?. Most all of us have had other issues, but as Bill W. states in the 12 x 12, "Shoemaker, stick to thy last" do one thing supremely well than many badly."

It was through sponsorship that I learned how to chair a meeting. It was suggested that I be prepared and have a topic from the Big Book or 12 X 12 ready if I was asked to chair. There are those occasions when I am asked to chair a meeting at the last minute. My sponsor told me to open the book and read a paragraph or go with the groups guided suggestions for meetings. It was instilled in me to chair a meeting from the literature of AA. By sticking with this idea, I do my best to chair a meeting that carries the message to the still suffering alcoholic.

Early in my recovery, I had been going to meetings and met a woman who had asked me to sponsor her. She told me that she thought she was more of an addict but she could relate to what I said in the meetings so we were going to try to work as sponsor and sponsee. As we began the process of reading the Big Book and talking about our experiences with our disease, we realized that we were coming from different experiences. Even though working the steps may be the same, she told me that she just could not relate to what I was saying. This is the same as with the meetings. I do not get much out of the meeting if I cannot relate to the experiences of the people sharing. I need to stay with alcoholics and the program of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Let us stay with what we do best!
Carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers!

Cathy Hurst
SWTA 68 Chair

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More Pioneer Women of A.A.

Marty Mann wrote the second edition Big Book story, "Women Suffer Too." She was the first female A.A. member to achieve lasting sobriety. She attended meetings in Bill and Lois' home at 182 Clinton Street in Brooklyn, New York. She was a patient of Dr. Harry Tiebout who had given her a multilith copy of the Big Book. She pioneered a group in Greenwich, Connecticut and became a personal friend of Bill and Dr. Bob. She founded the National Committee on Education of Alcoholism which later became the National Council on Alcoholism.

Agnes Mayo was the sister of Fitz Mayo an early A.A. member in New York City. She loaned Works Publishing Company \$1000 to help pay the printer costs for publishing the Big Book.

Florence Rankin wrote the first edition Big Book story, "A Feminine Victory." She entered A.A. on September 13, 1937. She was the only female A.A. member when possible names for the Big Book were discussed. It was because of her that the Big Book could not be named, "100 Men." She was the first female drunk to stay at Bill And Lois' home in Brooklyn. She returned to drinking and died April 19, 1943 of an apparent suicide.

Lilian Roth was a popular singer who went public in the 1940's about her alcoholism and her membership in A.A. She wrote her story in the book, "I'll Cry Tomorrow," which was later made into a movie. She helped get A.A. started in Australia.

Henrietta "Henri" Seiberling was the daughter-in-law of Akron tire giant Frank Seiberling and a good friend of Anne Smith. She was a non-alcoholic member of the Oxford Group. She was the last on a list that Reverend Walter Tunks gave to Bill Wilson when Bill Called from the Mayflower Hotel in May of 1935. Henrietta arranged for Bill and Dr. Bob to meet on Mother's Day, May 12, 1935 at her home, the gatehouse behind the main house of Frank Seiberling.

Anne Ripley Smith was the wife of A.A. co-founder Dr. Bob Smith. They were married in 1915. She attended Oxford Group meetings as early as 1932 and convinced Dr. Bob to go with her. In early 1936 she organized a wives group. Bill Wilson called her "The Mother of A.A." She talked with Sister Ignatia just about every day and they both helped Akron's first alcoholic women. She and Sister Ignatia and Henrietta Seiberling taught Bill and Dr. Bob the importance of a daily "quiet time" of prayer and reflection.

Kay Stewart and her husband KC got sober in 1965 and she remained sober until Founder's Day weekend of June 5, 2003. She, KC, Oscar Futral and about five other A.A.s used to meet for breakfast at the Flame Restaurant in Akron. It became a regular A.A. morning meeting with over 150 home group members. She is best known for working with Wesley Parrish from Pompano Beach, Florida to form the Founders Foundation to purchase

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Pioneer Women of A.A. continued

the former home of Dr. Bob and Anne Smith at 855 Ardmore Ave. With the help of many other A.A.'s they were able to repair and restore the home. Today it is on the State of Ohio Historic Registry and the National Historic Registry.

Lois Burnham Wilson was the wife of A.A. co-founder Bill Wilson. From the beginning of A.A. she helped alcoholics as well as the wives and families of alcoholics. She was co-founder of Al-Anon and was active all her life in serving that fellowship as well, traveling and speaking extensively in the US, Canada, and around the world until she died in 1998 at the age of 97. Her picture appeared in the Jack Alexander March 1, 1941 Saturday Evening Post article.

Nell Wing was a non-alcoholic secretary and assistant to Bill Wilson working at the General Service Office from March 1947 until 1982 when she retired. She was the secretary for AA World Services Inc. and the first AA archivist starting in 1973 to about 1983 but began her archival work in 1957. At the A.A. International Convention in Seattle, Washington in 1990, Nell was given the ten millionth copy of the big Book. She was on the Lear Jet that rushed Bill Wilson from Bedford Hills, NY to the Miami Heart Clinic on January 24, 1971.

"The foundation stone of freedom from fear is that of faith: a faith that, despite all worldly appearances to the contrary, causes me to believe that I live in a universe that makes sense."

AA Co-Founder, Bill W., January 1962 "This Matter of Fear"

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

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**

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

Did you know there are 609 active groups in SWTA 68?

The Stand

Step Five

"Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs"

All of A.A.'s Twelve Steps ask us to go contrary to our natural desires. They all deflate our egos. When it comes to ego deflation, few Steps are harder to take than Five. But scarcely any Step is more necessary to longtime sobriety and peace of mind than this one. We have come to know how wrong thinking and action have hurt us and others in Step Four. We need to quit living by ourselves with those tormenting ghosts of yesterday and talk to someone about them. When we take this step we come out of isolation and it draws us closer to God.

This feeling of being at one with God and another human being, this emerging from isolation through the open and honest sharing of our terrible burden of guilt, brings us to a resting place where we may prepare ourselves for the following Steps toward a full and meaningful sobriety.

AA Fact File

AA is in 175 Countries with 115,326 groups
There are 60,143 groups in the US as of June 2015

Hello District 12!

Proposal #1 - That the Spanish translation of the book "Daily Reflections" be reformatted in large print.

Proposal #2 - Establish a Technology Committee Chair (to include the webmaster, duties) with the same standing as the current SWTA 68 Service Structure and Procedures pamphlet.

Proposal #3 - Any proposal must be accepted exactly as written

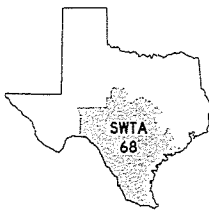
Proposal #4 - An Area Archivist shall be appointed by the Area Chairperson and Delegate to the Area Archives Committee every three years. The Area Archivist will be eligible to serve for two consecutive three-year terms.

AA Traditions and Group Conscience of the Area Archives committee and Area Assembly will be the final authority regarding implementation of the duties of the Archivist as suggested in the AAWS Archives Workbook.

Area seeks to hear from the groups about these proposals. Not sure if they were passed to the GSR's for their action. Now you know! Thanks!
That's what's up!

In Service,

Tracy
DCM District 12



Southwest Texas Area 68



Panel 68 Officers

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www.aa-swta.org

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73rd Annual Texas State Convention

June 7-8-9, 2019 - Houston, TX

"We absolutely insist on enjoying life." -p132, Alcoholics Anonymous

AA Speakers

James H., Corpus Christi, TX
Amalia C., Newington, CT
Karl M., Covina, CA
Diana M., W Largo, FL
GSO., New York, NY

Al-Anon/Alateen

Al-Anon Speaker - TBA
Alateen Speaker - TBA



Please make hotel reservations directly with:

Westin Galleria Hotel

5060 West Alabama
Houston, TX 77056
(713) 960-8100 or (800) 937-8461

\$129 Room Rates

Mention 2019 TX State Convention

Cut-off for \$129 room rate is May 20, 2019

<https://book.passkey.com/e/49628525>

Convention Attractions

- 1st Timer Contest
- Al-Anon Luncheon & Speaker
- Archives Room
- Fellowship, Food, and FUN!!!
- Hospitality Rooms
- Marathon Meetings
- Saturday Night Dance
- Spanish Translation Provided

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR AL-ANON LUNCHEON AND CONVENTION: MAY 20, 2019

Onsite Registration Fee is \$35 per person at the door.

Full name: _____

Home Group: _____

Full name: _____

Home Group: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

_____ AA/Al-Anon @ \$30 before May 20 \$ _____
_____ Al-Anon Lunch @ \$28 before May 20 \$ _____
_____ Alateen @ \$5 before May 20 \$ _____
_____ Saturday Dance only @ \$10 \$ _____
Scholarship donation \$ _____
TOTAL DUE \$ _____

Use this form and send payment to:

Texas State Convention
PO Box 10784, Houston TX 77206

Badge name: _____
[] AA [] Al-Anon [] Alateen

Badge name: _____
[] AA [] Al-Anon [] Alateen

City/State/Zip: _____

Email: _____

Alateens must have signed permission forms!

Please indicate any special needs on pre-registration form.
Spanish translation will be provided.

Special needs: _____

Email address: _____

Email: 2019txstate@gmail.com

Website: txaaconvention.org

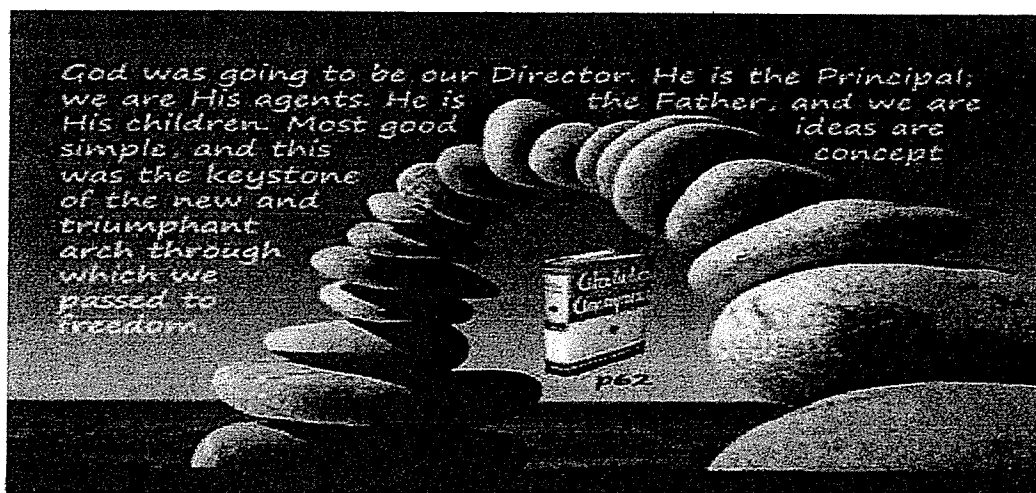


2019

Southwest Texas Area 68 Summer Workshop

“...THE NEW AND TRIUMPHANT ARCH
THROUGH WHICH WE PASS TO FREEDOM.”

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Friday July 26th- Sunday July 28th

Hampton Inn

240 S. Hasler Blvd., Bastrop, TX 78602

512-321-2898

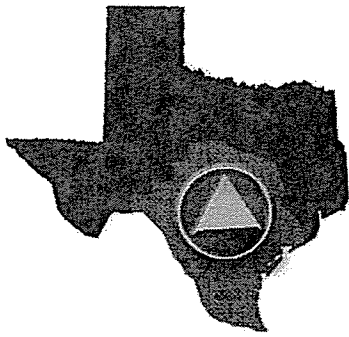
For More Info Contact
Jan S., 512-947-3554

Nightly Room Rates:
\$88 for King/ \$119 for King Suite
\$99 for 2 Queen Beds
Ask for Code SWT



Hosted by District 29
www.district29aa.org





“The Joy of Good Living is the Theme of A.A.s Twelfth Step”

**Southwest
Texas Area**

68

**Fall Voting Conference and Assembly
October 18th – 20th, 2019**

San Antonio, Texas

Hosted by District 16

Hotel

San Antonio Marriott Northwest
3233 NW Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78213

\$104 per night (King or 2 Queens)
Discount code: SWTA68
Cut-off date to book: September 27th

Reservations: (888) 236-2427
Or go to: <https://www.aa-swta.org/event/2019-fall-conference-and-voting-assembly/>

Registration

Registration fee: \$10

Check payable to “District 16”
and mail to:

25519 Echo Terrace
San Antonio, Texas 78260

Questions?

Email: district16@aa-swta.org
or call (210) 328-1044

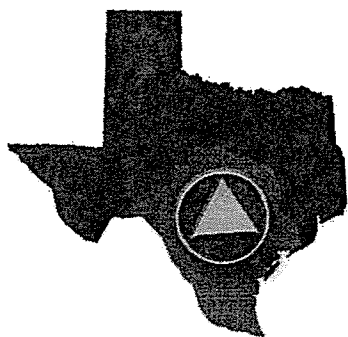
.....
Please mail with payment

Name: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ District: _____ Group: _____

Name on Badge: _____ Voting?: _____



Southwest
Texas Area

68

“La Alegría de Vivir Bien es la Tema del Paso Duodécimo de A.A.s”

Conferencia y Asamblea de Votación de Otoño

Octubre 18th – 20th, 2019

San Antonio, Texas

Presentado por el Distrito 16

Hotel

San Antonio Marriott Northwest
3233 NW Loop 410
San Antonio, Texas 78213

\$104 por noche (Rey or dos Reinas)
Código de Descuento: SWTA68
Fecha Límite para Reservar:
27 de Septiembre

Llame: (888) 236-2427
o ir a: <https://www.aa-swta.org/event/2019-fall-conference-and-voting-assembly/>

Registro

Precio de registro: \$10
Cheque dirigido a “District 16”

Enviado por correo a:
25519 Echo Terrace
San Antonio, Texas 78260

Preguntas?

Correo electrónico:
district16@aa-swta.org

Llame: (210) 328-1044

Por favor envíe con pago

Nombre: _____

Correo Electrónico: _____ Teléfono: _____

Ciudad: _____ Distrito: _____ Grupo: _____

Nombre en la Placa: _____ Votación?: _____