



The STAND

Issue 1

January 2024

Special points of interest:

- Dr. Bob
- Greetings from our new DCM
- Traditions
- Concepts
- Areas of Texas
- Grapevine
- Armed Forces Project
- Events

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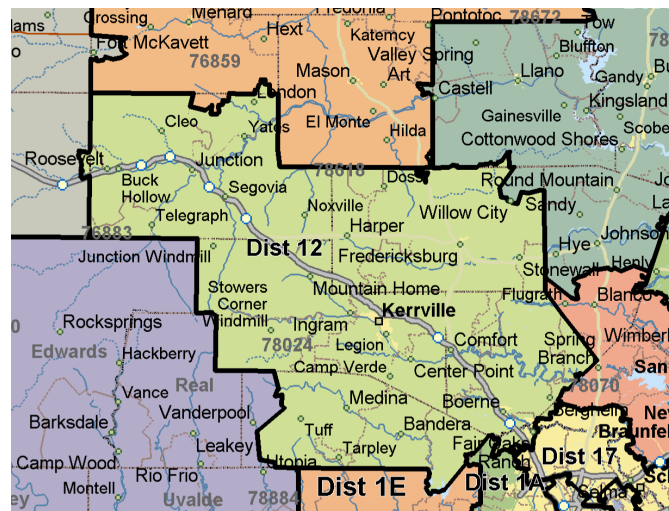
Bilingual: Larry M.

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Welcome *Panel 74*

District 12 Area 68 Trusted Servants



aadistrict12.org

District 12 meets the 2nd Sunday of each month

2:00pm. @ The 720 Club

980 Barnett St., Kerrville 78028

all are welcome

On Cultivating Tolerance by Dr. Bob

During nine years in AA, I have observed that those who follow the Alcoholics Anonymous program with the greatest earnestness and zeal not only maintain sobriety but often acquire finer characteristics and attitudes as well. One of

these is tolerance. Tolerance expresses itself in a variety of ways: in Kindness and Consideration toward the man or woman who is just beginning the march along the spiritual path; in the Understanding of those who perhaps have been less fortunate in

education advantages; and in Sympathy toward those whose religious ideas may seem to be at great variance with our own.
cont'd pg 2



On Cultivating Tolerance by Dr. Bob

cont'd from pg 1

I am reminded in this connection of the picture of a hub with its radiating spokes. We all start at the outer circumference and approach our destination by one of many routes.

To say that one spoke is much better than all the other spokes is true only in the sense of its being best suited to you as an individual. Human nature is such that without some degree of tolerance, each one of us might be inclined to believe that we have found the best or perhaps the shortest spoke. Without some tolerance, we might tend to become a bit smug or

superior – which, of course, is not helpful to the person we are trying to help and may be quite painful or obnoxious to others. No one of us wishes to do anything that might act as a deterrent to the advancement of another – and a patronizing attitude can readily slow up this process.

Tolerance furnishes, as a by-product, a greater freedom from the tendency to cling to preconceived ideas and stubbornly adhered-to opinions. In other words, it often promotes an open-mindedness that is vastly important – is, in fact, a prerequisite to the successful termina-

tion of any line of search, whether it be scientific or spiritual.

These, then, are a few of the reasons why an attempt to acquire tolerance should be made by each one of us.

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Tradition of the Month

Our A.A. experience has taught us that:

Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. A.A. must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.

To those now in its fold, Alcoholics Anonymous has made the difference between misery and sobriety, and often the difference between life and death. A.A. can, of course, mean just as much to uncounted alcoholics not yet reached.

Therefore, no society of men and

women ever had a more urgent NEED for continuous effectiveness and permanent unity. We alcoholics see that we must work together and hang together, else most of us will finally die alone.

The "12 Traditions" of Alcoholics Anonymous are, we A.A.'s believe, the

best answers that our experience has yet given to those ever urgent questions, "How can A.A. best function?" and, "How can A.A. best stay whole and so survive?"

Pg 563 2nd edition Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. New York City 1955

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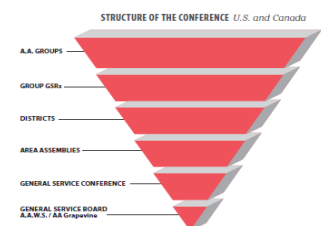
Concept of the Month

The final responsibility and ultimate authority for A.A. world services should always reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

The "Twelve Concepts for World Service" to be described in this Manual are an interpretation of A.A.'s world service structure. They reveal the evolution by which it has arrived in its present form, and they detail the experience and reasoning on which our operation stands today. These

Concepts therefore aim to record the "why" of our service structure in such a fashion that the highly valuable experience of the past, and the lessons we have drawn from that experience, can never be forgotten or lost.

THE "UPSIDE-DOWN TRIANGLE"



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DCM CORNER

Greetings,
District 12

Greetings,
District 12

My name is Sam Lovett and I will be your District Committee Member for 2024 and 2025. My first day sober was August 6th of 2010. I can attribute my continued sobriety to the program and the people of Alcoholics Anonymous. I can honestly say that AA is the reason I am sober, or even alive today.

Beginning as a GSR in 2017, I have been active in service. The service experience has been transformational for me, and I no longer see our fellowship as I did be-

fore. I have witnessed a dedication to the Traditions and AA unity that permeates every level of service. It has been inspirational and can only be seen through the eyes of someone who experiences the fellowship beyond the Group level. I hope that the incoming GSRs will have an experience similar to mine.

District 12 has had a proud tradition of participation and activity. Alas, other Districts in Area 68 are not so fortunate. The consequence is that the groups in these Districts remain uninformed about affairs that affect the entire fellowship. Also, they have no voice in deciding these affairs. District 12 remains strong because of the

willing participation of its Groups and their members. May this never change!

I am enthusiastic about the upcoming panel, and am looking forward to doing my part to serve the District and its Groups.

Yours in Service.

Sam Lovett

Meeting Highlight

Llevando El Mensaje

(Carrying The Message)

Hi Family !!! My name is Larry, and I'm a recovered alcoholic. I'm also your District 12 Bilingual Committee Chair. I've been serving since March of 2020, and am going to be serving you thru this incoming panel as well. Our meeting,

“Grupo El Mensaje”

Thursday's, 6pm

980 Barnett

Kerrville, Tx 78028

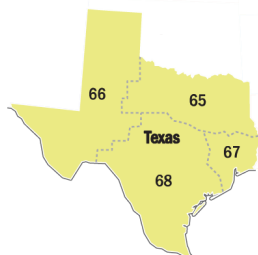
720 Club.

We've been around since April of 2020, and are the only Spanish meeting in the Hill Country outside of San Antonio.

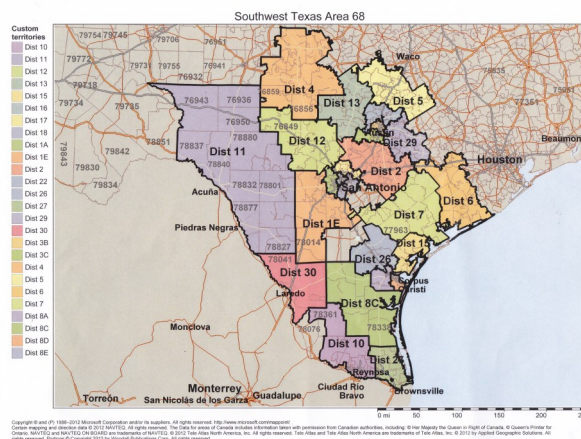
It can be found on our district website, as well as the meeting finder app. It is an open Spanish/Bilingual meeting and can translate to keep visitors on the same page. We're glad to be here and glad to serve!

Texas Areas

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With 26 Districts in our Area 68, there are many opportunities for a road trip to check out a new meeting with our AA friends and family.



The AA Preamble came from the AA Grapevine

Is AA Grapevine Conference Approved?

In 1986, the General Service Conference formally recognized Grapevine's position in the fellowship:

The Conference recognizes the AA Grapevine as the international journal of Alcoholics Anonymous.

36th General Service Conference (1986)



The new guy's been wearing that ever since he heard about "being rocketed to the 4th dimension".

The AA Preamble: Background Information

THE PREAMBLE was introduced in the June 1947 issue of the AA Grapevine magazine. It was written by the then-editor, who borrowed much of the phrasing from the Foreword to the original edition of the Big Book, Alcoholics Anonymous.

In those early years, the Grapevine had just begun to circulate among nonalcoholics, and the Preamble was intended primarily to describe for them what AA is and is not. It is still often used for public information purposes. As time passed, it began appearing in all Conference-approved publications, and many AA groups now use it to open meetings. The original version differed in two ways from the familiar form we all know: 1) It stated that the only requirement for membership is an honest desire to stop drinking," and 2) it contained only the very brief statement "AA has no dues or fees."

People often ask why the word

"honest" was deleted. At the 1958 General Service Conference, a delegate asked about the words "honest desire to stop drinking," suggesting that since "honest" does not appear in the Third Tradition, it might be deleted from the Preamble. In discussion, most Conference members felt that as AA had matured, it had become almost impossible to determine what constitutes an honest desire to stop drinking, and also that some who might be interested in the program could be confused by the phrase. Thus, as part of the evolution of AA, the phrase had been dropped from common usage. The midsummer 1958 meeting of the General Service Board of Trustees ratified the deletion, and since then the Preamble has read simply "a desire to stop drinking."

At the same time, the phrase "AA has no dues or fees" was clarified to read as it presently does: "There are no dues or fees for AA

membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions." The current version of the Preamble appears on page one of every issue of the Grapevine.

At the 71st General Service Conference in 2021, after a series of votes, a final Advisory Action requested that "The Preamble revision replacing the words 'men and women' with the word 'people' be presented to the General Service Board for approval as the new revised A.A. Preamble." The revised A.A. Preamble first appeared in the July 2021 AA Grapevine and the July/August La Viña, and afterwards throughout Grapevine and A.A.W.S. literature and other media.

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Service Material from the General Service Office

An Interview with Ray B.

Sobriety date: March 28th, 1966 ... 57 years of Sobriety ... home group Lunch Bunch

Ray sobered up in Odessa, Texas moving to Kerrville with 3 years of sobriety. Since there were no meetings here he drove to San Antonio attending meetings at Club 12 and also Starlight Village. Ray being a true pioneer started meetings in Kerrville and Fredericksburg.

I look at a sponsor as a good friend, someone I like the way they are staying sober, and I can share my life with.

My friend / sponsor told me to ask God to help me stay sober every morning and thank God at night; after 30 days I began to develop my own idea of God.

Our God is all the same, whether we call him Muhammad, Jesus, or whatever name, we are speaking of the same God.

I no longer have a drinking problem, I now have a thinking problem. If I hurt long enough I might take a drink.

I let myself stay sober, I can't make myself stay sober.

I attend meetings every day.

To the newcomer, I share my story.

I don't believe I have control over anything. A good example is ... try controlling diarrhea.

Have your character defects been removed? Absolutely Not! Everyone of them are still there; I just don't act on them. If I do I don't sleep good.

Enjoy the good, tolerate the bad ... it will pass.

Whatever happens in my life I don't drink, never wanted to drink. I think about what would happen.

When I sobered up I was real angry and angry at God. When my wife was diagnosed with dementia I got angry ... she didn't deserve dementia. It's ok to be angry at God. My wife had dementia for 15 years before she passed.

When I look back on my life I see there is a God and I'm not it.

A poem Ray's wife wrote for him

I still recall so vividly, only yesterday.

I was there sick of body, mind, and soul,

Loss of will, and in despair.

Then you came to me, that very dreary day.

And in your eyes I could see

The love of god had beckoned you, to share your life with me.

Now I share with others who are lost along the way,

The courage, strength, and hope God has given me today.

ARMED FORCES INTERVIEW PROJECT

HOME // ARMED FORCES INTERVIEW PROJECT



The Trustees' Committee on Cooperation with the Professional Community/Treatment and Accessibilities is seeking A.A. members in the U.S. and Canadian Armed Forces to discuss their experience, strength, and hope as sober members of A.A. in the military in recorded anonymity-protected interviews. The goal of this effort is to improve A.A. outreach to members in the U.S. and Canadian military. Interested military members can volunteer or get more information about this project by writing to militaryoutreach@aa.org.

2024 SWTA 68 Panel 74 Winter Workshop

What is our choice to be...

Castroville, TX -
Workshop Locations
January 12 & 13
Braden Keller Center
1410 Amelia
January 14
Hillside Boutique Hotel
1651 US-90 West

Lodging:
Hillside Boutique Hotel 1651 US-90
West Castroville, TX
(830) 538-3200
Best Western Hotel Sea World
West 1605 W. 1604 Loop S
San Antonio, TX
(210) 562-3065

Additional lodging info. call Tegan
T. (830) 931-5010

January 12-14 2024

2024 Area 68 Correction Facility Committee (CFC) Freedom From Bondage

Correction Facility Committee (CFC)
Hosted by District 29
email.district29@aa-swta.org

HAMPTON INN & SUITES
240 S. Hasler Blvd., Bastrop, TX 78602
<https://group.hamptoninn.com/hz3ixt>
Call for Reservations 1-512-321-2898
Room Rate \$119.00
Group code ~ CHHCFC

Registration and payment \$15.00 can be
sent to: District 29, P.O. Box 1773,
Bastrop, TX 78602

February 2-4, 2024

Celebrating Founders Day

77th Annual Texas State Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous

"The Main Object..."

<https://txaaconvention.org/>

The Westin DFW
4545 W John Carpenter Fwy,
Irving, TX 75063
(972) 929-4500

June 21-23, 2024

2024 SRAASA

*Service: Vital to Our
Growth*

Hosted by Northeast Texas,
Area 65

Renaissance Dallas
Richardson Hotel
900 E Lookout Dr, Richardson, TX
75082

Register here:

<https://swraasa2024.org/register/>

<https://swraasa2024.org/>

October 11 - 13, 2024

Control click to follow links

2025 International Convention

Vancouver will welcome A.A. members from around
the world for the

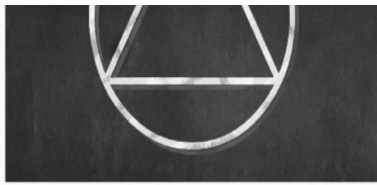
2025 International Convention

This will mark the 90th anniversary of the begin-
ning of our Fellowship's founding. The International
Convention will take place from

July 3 - 6, 2025

Vancouver Convention Centre & BC Place Stadium.

[Frequently asked questions & entry into Canada Issues](#)



*What is our
choice to be...*

January 12-14, 2024
SWTA 68 Panel 74
Winter Workshop

Workshop locations:

***January 12 & 13**

Braden Keller Center

1410 Amelia

Castroville, TX

***January 14 Hillside Boutique Hotel**

Lodging:

Hillside Boutique Hotel

1651 US-90 West

Castroville, TX

(830) 538-3200

Lodging:

Best Western Hotel Sea World West

1605 W. 1604 Loop S

San Antonio, TX

(210) 562-3065

Freedom From Bondage



FEBRUARY 2-4, 2024

CFC Conference | Area 68

Correction Facility Committee (CFC) | Hosted by District 29,
email district29@aa-swta.org or visit aa-swta.org/events

HAMPTON INN & SUITES

240 S. Hasler Blvd., Bastrop, TX 78602

<https://group.hamptoninn.com/hz3ixt>

Call for Reservations 1-512-321-2898 | Room Rate \$119.00
Group code~CHHCFC

Registration and payment \$15.00 can be sent to:

District 29, P.O. Box 1773, Bastrop, TX 78602

1-Name: _____

2-City / Home Group / District: _____

3-Contact Info: E-Mail or Phone #: _____



Hosted by
Northeast Texas, Area 65
October 11th, 12th, 13th
\$20 Registration

Visit us at:
www.swraasa2024.org

For Questions: Registration@swraasa2024.org

RICHARDSON, TEXAS

Renaissance Dallas Richardson Hotel
900 E Lookout Drive
Richardson, TX 75082
(972) 367.2000
Hotel block opens November 2023

REGISTER HERE



SCAN ME

Registration Cut Off Date: 09/27/2024

Mail to: PO Box 863582, Plano, TX 75086

Print Neatly

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ **Phone:** _____

Scholarship Contribution: _____

Make Checks Payable To: Northeast TX Area SWRAASA 2024