



The STAND

Issue 2

February 2024

District 12 Trusted Servants

DCM: Sam

Alt. DCM: Ellie

Secretary: Tiffany

Alt Secretary: Christine W.

Treasurer: Cooper S.

Alt. Treasurer: Elaine

Archives: Mark

Correctional Facility: Sandy

Grapevine / La Vina: Ryan

Helpline: Ben

Newsletter: Cindy S.

PICPC: Alan

Bilingual: Larry M.

Treatment Facilities: Cotton

Webmaster: David H.

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District 12 Area 68

District 12 meets the 2nd Sunday of each month

2:00pm. @ The 720 Club

980 Barnett St., Kerrville 78028

all are welcome

Let your voice be heard!

Inside this issue are 2 questionnaires for you and your group.

aadistrict12.org

The group and its general service representative What it means to be a GSR

For most A.A.s, membership in a *home group* is one of the keys to continuing sobriety. In a *home group*, they accept service responsibilities and learn to sustain connections with other recovering alcoholics. The *home group* affords individual A.A.s the privilege of voting on issues that affect the Fellowship as a whole; it is the very basis of the service structure. While many A.A. members attend other groups as well, the *home group* is where they participate in business meetings and cast their vote as part of the group conscience of the Fellowship as a whole. As with all group conscience matters, each member has one vote.

The role of the general service representative, or GSR, is essential to the purpose of general service. Bill W. wrote in Concept I of The Twelve Concepts for World Service: "The A.A. groups today hold ultimate responsibility and final authority for our world services." The role of the GSR is essential to ensuring that groups can fulfill that responsibility. Only when a GSR keeps the group informed and communicates the group conscience can the Conference truly act for A.A. as a

whole. This communication is a two-way street, making the GSR responsible not only for bringing forward the group's voice, but for taking back to the group Conference actions that affect the Fellowship's unity, health and growth.

So what is the role of a GSR?

The GSR is the link between the group and "A.A. as a whole."

This link becomes a channel through which news, information, opinions and ideas can flow back and forth.

Importantly, this also gives the group a voice in the affairs of the Fellowship.

The GSR is that voice.

There is more than one way for GSRs to express their group's thoughts and wishes - their conscience - in general service.

cont'd pg 2

The group and its general service representative

What it means to be a GSR

**When the GSR is present
at assemblies,
the group's voice is heard.**

The presence of a GSR says their group cares about what's going on in the Fellowship and wants to learn and make its concerns and suggestions known.

Reprinted from The A.A. Service Manual pg. 7, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc."

**When the GSR participates,
the group's voice is heard.**

It can be through a GSR sharing the group's concerns across a conference table from other GSRs in a district meeting. It can be through questioning a budget item or proposing an idea important to the group at an area assembly. It can be through making an impassioned plea about an agenda item to the delegate on the eve of the annual General Service Conference meeting.

**When the GSR votes,
the group's voice is heard.**

The GSR votes on the trusted servants to lead the district and the area as well as the delegate to represent the area at the annual General Service Conference meeting. The group's voice is heard when the GSR votes on how best to use Seventh Tradition contributions to carry out Twelfth Step services.

What's important is to participate

cont'd from pg. 1

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Tradition of the Month

"For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern."

"Almost timidly, one of my friends began to speak. 'We know how hard up you are, Bill. It bothers us a lot. We've often wondered what we might do about it. But I think I speak for everyone here when I say that what you now propose bothers us an awful lot more.' The speaker's voice grew more confident. 'Don't you realize,' he went on, 'that you can never become a professional? As generous as Charlie has been to us, don't you see that we can't tie this

thing up with his hospital or any other? You tell us that Charlie's proposal is ethical. Sure, it's ethical, but what we've got won't run on ethics only; it has to be better. Sure, Charlie's idea is good, but it isn't good enough. This is a matter of life and death, Bill, and nothing but the very best will do.' Challengingly, my friends looked at me as their spokesman continued. 'Bill, haven't you often said right here in this meeting that sometimes the good is the enemy of the best? Well,

this is a plain case of it. You can't do this thing to us!

"So spoke the group conscience. The group was right and I was wrong; the voice on the subway was not the voice of God. Here was the true voice, welling up out of my friends. I listened, and—thank God—I obeyed."

Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, pg 138, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

2

Concept of the Month

When, in 1955, the A.A. groups confirmed the permanent charter for their General Service Conference, they thereby delegated to the Conference complete authority for the active maintenance of our world services and thereby made the Conference—excepting for any change in the Twelve Traditions or in Article 12 of the Conference Charter—the actual voice and the effective conscience for our whole Society.

Exactly as Dr. Bob and I earlier had found it necessary to delegate a large part of our active authority to the Trustees, so have the A.A. groups since found it necessary to delegate these same powers to their General Service Conference. The final say — the ultimate sanction in matters of large importance — has not been given to the Trustees alone. By the Conference Charter, confirmed at St. Louis, this authority is now delegated to

the A.A. groups and thence to their Conference, a body which is a representative cross section of our entire Fellowship.

Therefore the General Service Conference of A.A. — plus any later formed sections — has become for nearly every practical purpose the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in its world affairs.

In making this momentous transfer, we old-timers deeply hope that we have avoided those pitfalls into which societies have so often fallen because their originators have failed, during their lifetimes, to properly delegate and distribute their own authority, responsibility and leadership.

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DCM CORNER

Greetings, District 12

As of this submission, the transition from the last panel to the new is proceeding. My gratitude goes out to all of the outgoing members of the previous panel for their assistance in helping the new committee chairs make the transition. All of the chairs and officers are coming into their new positions with little to no experience, and the help from the members of the former panel is of great comfort. I speak for myself especially.

All committee chairs are actively seeking volunteers to serve on the district's committees and all are welcome to sign up. As in all aspects of service, there is no requirement beyond willingness. If anyone is curious about service to the district, serving on a committee would be an excellent opportunity to see what it's all about!

This panel will have some very interesting, and perhaps controversial, issues put before it. If your group is not represented, it will have no say in these important decisions, and worse still, will not even know about them. Albeit, these issues may not effect the day-to-day for most groups,

but they may have profound impacts on the fellowship as a whole, and as a consequence, every group in the fellowship.

District 12 will continue in its mission to serve the groups and their members whatever the circumstances. If your group has any questions, concerns or otherwise, please don't hesitate to contact a district committee member, or come to a district meeting and let your voice be heard. District 12 meets every month on the second Sunday of the month. Meetings are held at the 720 Club in Kerrville, 2:00pm.

Sam Lovett,
District 12 DCM

SWTA 68 Election Results Welcome Panel 74

Officers

Delegate: K.C.H
Alt. Delegate: Amanda B
Area Chairperson: Donita S
Alt. Area Chairperson: Tony R
Area Secretary: Mary T
Alt. Area Secretary: Jose M
Area Registrar: Randy R

Committee Chairpersons

Archives: Charlie B	Treatment: George T
Bilingual: Filiberto D	Technology: Lan K
Correctional Facilities: Johnny C	Accessibilities: Noelle S.K.
Grapevine / La Vina: Courtney L	Webmaster: Michael B
Newsletter: Camille R.P.	Archivist: Daniel B
P.I./C.P.C.: Kaylyn J	

Area 68 Book Club

Thursday, March 21, 6:30 pm

"AA Comes of Age"
Chapters 1-3

Zoom Meeting
ID: 889 9877 2308

Participants will be invited to share their top three takeaways. It will be super fun!

Texas Areas 65 66 67 68

In Depth A.A. Service Manual Study

Join A.A. members from around the Southwest Region!

When: Every other Thursday
February 1st, 15th, 29th

Where: Zoom

Meeting ID: 850 7691 9502

Passcode: Service24

Time: 6:30pm Central
(Est 1 hour duration)

Attention General Service Representative (“GSR”)

During the Winter Workshop Jan 12th-14th our Delegate released 2 Surveys regarding our Co-Founders Writings.

Brief Background Points:

During the 71st General Service Conference (2021), there were 3 Advisory Actions to make changes to the book 12 Steps and 12 Traditions

2 of the 3 actions changed the original writings on page 66 and page 117

Since that Conference, there have been many proposed Agenda items submitted to rescind these 2 changes. As well, there have been some new proposed agenda items submitted to make additional changes, including to the Big Book (“Alcoholics Anonymous”).

During the 73rd General Service Conference (2023), there was a Committee Consideration to seek feedback directly from the fellowship on changing the Co-Founders writings.

The Conference Committee provided suggested questions for the Trustees to review and in turn ask the fellowship for input.

The Trustees Literature Committee released a different set of questions for the fellowship in November.

Our Delegate Request:

Review both sets of Survey questions

Gather your Home Group Conscience on all questions proposed When answering, and if applicable, **first answer a Yes or No** to the question.

After the Yes or No – you may provide additional comments from your Home Group (if desired)

How to submit the Informed Group Conscience:

GSRs can submit the Group conscience at the District meeting (held 2nd Sunday each month at 720 Club 2:00pm), during the March Pre-General Service Conference or Area Assembly, or via e-mail to the Area 68 Delegate Delegate@aa-swta.org . If your group does not have a GSR please contact your DCM or any District Committee member.

Committee Consideration from the 73rd General Service Conference

The committee considered a request to discuss proposed agenda items related to changes to the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*.

The committee suggested that the Trustees' Literature Committee seek input from the Fellowship (including but not limited to Area delegate feedback) regarding any possible future changes to literature written by A.A.'s founders.

The committee requested that a progress report be brought back to the 2024 Conference Committee on Finance. (Mindful of budgetary restraints, the committee suggests financial prudence when determining how best to obtain Fellowship sharing.)

Questions to be considered might include:

1. Should suggested revisions be subjected to a 2-year Conference review process?
- 2a. Should any future suggested changes retain the original writing with footnotes for text being updated or
- 2b. Should the founder's writings remain unchanged?
3. Should there be a threshold for review (group, district, area)?
4. Should the changes to the book *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions* by 2021 General Service Conference remain?
5. Should a new policy regarding Bill W.'s writing be created as a guide to future changes?

Survey Two
Trustees' Literature Committee (2023-2024)

November 13, 2023

Dear Trusted Servants:

A.A.'s Co-Founder, Bill W., in his 1953 address to the General Service Conference, stated that he did not consider himself the author of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Big Book (*Our Great Responsibility*, p. 92). He also alluded to the fact that in the various A.A. literature published prior to his passing, he borrowed heavily from other sources, and that other A.A. members made significant contributions. On the other hand, addressing the historical context of some of the writings of our Founders, many members in our Fellowship have expressed strong sentiment against any changes in the first 164 pages of *Alcoholics Anonymous*, the Big Book, as well as the Preface, the Forewords, The Doctor's Opinion, Doctor Bob's Nightmare, and the Appendices. In fact, as early as 1995 and most recently in 2022, Advisory Actions designed to protect the above-referenced contents have been passed by the General Service Conference.

In response to a Committee Consideration from the 73rd General Service Conference suggesting that trustees' Literature Committee *seek input from the Fellowship (including but not limited to Area delegate feedback) regarding any possible future changes to literature written by A.A.'s Founders*, the trustees' Literature committee agreed it would be beneficial to gather shared experience from the Fellowship regarding this topic.

We would like to hear from you – the top of the triangle! While we hope that the suggested questions will help to spark thoughtful sharing and discussion, please feel free to add questions that we may not have thought of that you feel may best inform the discussion. Most of all, we are grateful for and thank you for your participation.

In fellowship,
The trustees' Literature Committee (2023-2024)

Attachment: Suggested Questions

How should we treat A.A. Founders' Writings
Suggested Questions for Discussion

1. Do you think that A.A. Founders would object to or embrace revisions to their writings? If yes, why? If not, why?
2. Do you think the Founders' writings are effective in reaching new members? If not, what measures do you think can be taken to resolve this issue?
3. What reasons would you consider for changing our Founders' writings?
4. How do you feel about changing A.A. Founders' writings to replace outdated references?
5. What suggestions do you have for preserving the Founders' writings, along with keeping pace with our current A.A. Society and its future?
6. Should there be a special Conference process for approval of changes to our Founders' writings? (e.g., super, or qualified majority – 75%, and/or 2-year consideration process.)
7. What additional ideas, thoughts or suggestions can you share about changing or not changing the Founders' writings?

Note: Please be as concise as possible in your responses to the questions.

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/hz3jxt>
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

2024 SWTA 68 Pre-General Voting Assembly

“Connecting with
Love, Unity, and Service”

Mission Event Center
200 N Shary Rd, Mission TX 78572

Hampton Inn & Suites
2505 Victoria Dr,
Mission, TX 78572
\$109.00 Group Code (SWTA)
(956)682-0313

Surrounding hotels located in the Mission area are listed below.
Shary Inn and Suites
203 S. Shary Rd., Mission TX 78572
La Quinta
805 Travis ST Mission TX 78572

March 15-17th, 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

Thu, Jul 04 | Austin

The 64th ICYPAA Conference



<https://www.icypaa.org>

2024 SWRAASA *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

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

2025 International Convention

This will mark the 90th anniversary of the beginning 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](#)

Meeting held every other Thursday @ 6:30pm central

A.A. SERVICE MANUAL

IN DEPTH BOOK STUDY

Virtual (via Zoom)



Area 4 Arkansas
Area 10 Colorado
Area 25 Kansas
Area 38 Eastern Missouri
Area 39 Western Missouri
Area 46 New Mexico
Area 57 Oklahoma
Area 65 Northeast Texas
Area 66 Northwest Texas
Area 67 Southeast Texas
Area 68 Southwest Texas

Curious A.A. members from the SW Region getting together for an in depth study of the A. A. Service Manual.



Learn More

We want You!



A most effective way for us to learn is to hear from those who have the experience. We welcome you to join us and share!


Share with us



Join us - Upcoming Meeting Dates:
February 1st, 15th, 29th @ 6:30pm central

For More Information or to be added to our e-mail reminder list:

 3legacyservice@gmail.com

 via Zoom

Meeting ID: 850 7691 9502

Passcode: Service24

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 #: _____

PRESENTED BY
THE 64TH ICYPAA

SWEET TOOTH AUCTION



THERE WILL BE BREAKFAST TACOS!

SATURDAY
FEBRUARY **24**

12:00PM - 4:00PM
ST. LUKE'S METHODIST
1306 W. LYNN STREET
AUSTIN, TX

SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION: \$15
BRING A SWEET TREAT FOR THE
AUCTION AND GET \$5 OFF
SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION


MORE INFORMATION
(507)319-4510

Panel on Traditions
in Relationships:

CECIL R.
& GUEST



the64thcypaa.org



DISTRICT 10 PRESENTS

2024 SWTA 68

PRE-GENERAL
VOTING ASSEMBLY

MARCH 15-17TH

“Connecting with Love,
Unity, and Service”

Mission Event Center
200 N Shary Rd, Mission TX 78572

Hampton Inn & Suites

2505 Victoria Dr,

Mission, TX 78572

\$109.00 Group Code (SWTA)

(956)682-0313

Surrounding hotels located in
the Mission area are listed below.

Shary Inn and Suites
203 S. Shary Rd., Mission TX
78572

La Quinta
805 Travis ST Mission TX
78572

*If you have any questions, please contact
Melissa M. at Classysinger.mm@gmail.com.



77th Texas State AA Convention

The Main Object...

June 21-23, 2024

Voice of the Convention – Wayne L. (Lakeside Group, Rockwall, TX)

Friday June 21

- 2:00 PM On-site registration opens
- 5:30 PM Old Timers Meeting
- 7:30 PM AA Speaker
Marian G. (Knoxville, TN)

The Westin Hotel
4545 W. John Carpenter Fwy
(Hwy 114)
Irving, TX 75063
972-929-4500

For room accommodations,
request the rate for the
"Texas State Convention"
\$129 per night
single or double

Book before June 6 to ensure availability.

Saturday June 22

- 9:30 AM Al Anon Speaker
Nancy S. (Topeka, KS)
- 11:00 AM AA Speaker
Erin B. (Cleveland, OH)
- 2:30 PM NETA, NWTA,
SETA, SWTA Delegates
- 3:00 PM GSO Speaker
Diana L. (New York, NY)
- 7:30 PM AA Speaker*
Jimmy A. (Spring
Lake Heights, NJ)

Ice Cream Social Sat. Night
After Meeting

Register online at:
txaaconvention.org

Or use the form below and send payment.

Sunday June 23

- 9:30 AM AA Speaker
Mike S. (Topeka, KS)



THE WESTIN HOTEL
Estates Blvd @ 114



*An ASL interpreter will be available
for the Saturday night meeting.

✂ DETACH AND RETURN

Registration Fee: \$20 per person

Name _____ Name on Badge _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Additional Registrations

Name _____ Name on Badge _____

Name _____ Name on Badge _____

Registration @ \$20 each = \$ _____

Scholarship Contribution = \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

MAIL FORM & PAYMENT TO: Texas State Convention
500 Tanglewood South
Irving, TX 75061

Make checks payable to: Texas State Convention

Thu, Jul 04 | Austin

The 64th ICYPAA Conference



<https://www.icypaa.org/event-details/the-64th-icypaa-conference-1>



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