



The STAND

Issue 4

April 2024

District 12 Trusted Servants

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- 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

The Area Assembly and its Activities

“An outstanding characteristic of every good operational structure is that it guarantees harmonious and effective function by relating its several parts and people in such a way that none can doubt what their respective responsibilities and corresponding authorities actually are. Unless these attributes are well defined; unless those holding the final authority are able and willing properly to delegate and maintain a suitable operational authority; unless those holding such delegated authority feel able and willing to use their delegated authority freely as trusted servants; and unless there exists some definite means of interpreting and deciding doubtful situations — then personal clashes, confusion, and ineffectiveness will be inevitable.” — Concept X

The areas hold an important position in the U.S./Canada General Service Conference structure. The areas are directly connected to the A.A. groups and their members through DCMs and GSRs. At the same time, they participate in the decision-making of A.A. through area delegates.

At the heart of each area is the assembly meeting, where the democratic voice of our Fellowship expresses itself. While each area has the autonomy to conduct its meetings according to its conscience, Concept XII offers the General Warranties of the Conference as the guiding principles to remain democratic in

thought and action.

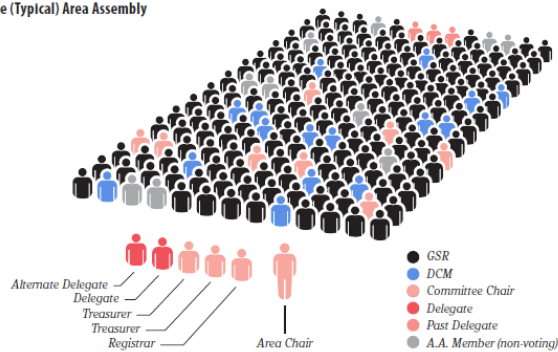
Purpose

Not all areas operate in the same way, but generally speaking, an area’s purpose is threefold:

1. To elect a delegate who will represent the area’s conscience at the annual General Service Conference, where decisions are made that affect A.A. throughout the U.S. & Canada.
2. To form a local decision-making structure so groups can collectively decide on matters that affect their area.
3. To carry out Twelfth Step work that may not be practical for groups, districts or inter-groups to take on by themselves. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Accessibility
- Area bulletin or newsletter
- Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC)
- Corrections
- Informational website
- Language translation services
- Literature, including Grapevine and La Viña
- Public Information (PI)
- Treatment Facilities

The (Typical) Area Assembly



Reprinted from The A.A. Service Manual pg 18, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

SWTA 68 General Voting Assembly

held March 15-17 Mission Tx

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <p><i>A few take aways from our Assembly</i></p> <p>District 10 did a fantastic job hosting the SWTA 68 General Voting Assembly.</p> <p>252 Registered for the Assembly</p> <p>34 Active Districts in Area 68</p> <p>DCMs gave their reports</p> <p>Officers and Committee Chairs gave their reports.</p> | <p>Discussions on funding Grapevine & La Vina, Founder's Writings, pamphlets, translation of 4th edition into plain & simple language, Equitable Distribution of Workload.</p> <p>Ask it basket with a room full of knowledge to answer your service questions.</p> <p>The stack of Founder's Writing Questionnaires handed in to KC our Delegate was probably 10" thick plus many more emailed. He will tally the</p> | <p>answers and comments for the upcoming GSC this month.</p> <p>GSR Workshop</p> <p>& much more</p> <p>GSRs get ready, plan ahead & register for our upcoming assemblies</p> <p>SWTA Summer Workshop in July and our</p> <p>SWTA Fall Conference & Voting Assembly in October</p> |
|---|--|---|

There is so much love and enthusiasm within this service structure, a wealth of knowledge, and a willingness to share. As GSR for the Friday Night Literature Study and Newsletter Chair, I am grateful to be a part of and learn.

"Life will take on new meaning. To watch people recover, to see them help others, to watch loneliness vanish, to see a fellowship grow up about you, to have a host of friends—this is an experience you must not miss. We know you will not want to miss it. Frequent contact with newcomers and with each other is the bright spot of our lives."

Reprinted from Alcoholics Anonymous page 89, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

Keep our Delegates and General Service Conference Committee in mind while they work together in love and service of Alcoholics Anonymous

2024 General Service Conference
 April 14th - 20th
 Brooklyn, NY Brooklyn, NY, United States

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Tradition of the Month

With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.

This Tradition is packed with meaning. For A.A. is really saying to every serious drinker, "You are an A.A. member if you say so. You can declare yourself in; nobody can keep you out. No matter who you are, no matter how low you've gone, no

matter how grave your emotional complications—even your crimes—we still can't deny you A.A. We don't want to keep you out. We aren't a bit afraid you'll harm us, never mind how twisted or violent you may be. We just want to be sure that you get the same great

chance for sobriety that we've had. So you're an A.A. member the minute you declare yourself."

Reprinted from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, pg. 139, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

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Concept of the Month

As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision."

The Conference and General Service Board Charters in broad terms define the responsibility of the Conference to act on behalf of A.A. as a whole. In these two documents a necessarily large area of delegated service author-

ity and responsibility has been staked out. These instruments, in a general way, describe the relation between the groups, the Conference, the Trustees and the active service units. These

broad definitions and descriptions are an indispensable frame of reference, and we could not function without them.

Reprinted from The A.A. Service Manual pg. C9 with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

I Am Responsible

It was written for the 1965 AA International Convention in Toronto. In an article titled, 'How I am Responsible became a part of AA', from the GSO newsletter, Box 4-5-9. The article identifies former AA trustee, Al S. as the author of the Responsibility Statement.

In the souvenir book for the 1965 Convention, Dr. Jack Norris writes:

"...We must remember that AA will continue strong only so long as each of us freely and happily gives it away to another person, only as each of us takes our fair share of responsibility for sponsorship of those who still suffer, for the growth and integrity of our Group, for our Intergroup activities, and for AA as a whole.

It is in taking responsibility that real freedom and the enduring satisfactions of life are found. AA has given us the power to choose – to drink or not to drink – and in doing so has given us the freedom to be responsible for ourselves. As we become responsible for ourselves, we are free to be responsible for our share in AA, and unless we happily accept this responsibility we lose AA. Strange, isn't it?"

In a Grapevine article in October 1965, the Responsibility Statement is discussed, and Bill W. expresses his views:

Two major thoughts stood out in the remarks of the many speakers, alcoholic and nonalcoholic, at AA's July Toronto Convention. The first was admiration and gratitude for AA's startling success in sobering up hundreds of

thousands of lost-cause drunks. The other was concern that the success

which has come to AA over the thirty years since its start in Akron, Ohio in 1935 would not lead us to any complacency about the size of the job still to be done.

The theme of the Convention was: Responsibility.

"I am responsible. . . when anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible."

AA's co-founder, Bill, in his talk to over 10,000 attending the major sessions of the Convention, stressed the need for cooperation with all who work on the problem of alcoholism, the more than 100 agencies in the United States and Canada alone now engaged in research, alcohol education and rehabilitation.

"Too often, we have deprecated and even derided these projects of our friends just because we do not always see eye to eye with them," Bill said. *"We should very seriously ask ourselves how many alcoholics have gone on drinking simply because we have failed to cooperate in good spirit with these many agencies. No alcoholic should go mad or die merely because he did not come straight to AA in the beginning."*

"The first concern of AA members should be with problem drinkers the movement is still unable to reach," Bill said. He estimated that there are 20 million alcoholics in the world today, five million in the U.S. alone. *"Some cannot be*

reached because they are not hurt enough, others because they are hurt too much," he declared.

"Many sufferers have mental and emotional complications that seem to foreclose their chances. Yet it would be conservative to estimate that at any particular time there are four million alcoholics in the world who are able, ready and willing to get well if only they knew how. When we remember that in the 30 years of AA's existence we have reached less than ten per cent of those who might have been willing to approach us, we begin to get an idea of the immensity of our task and of the responsibilities with which we will always be confronted."

There have been two Advisory Actions from the General Service Conference regarding the Declaration of Responsibility since it was introduced. In 1971, the Conference recommended that:

The Literature Committee, following the general feeling of the Conference, reaffirm both the spirit and the wording of the "I am Responsible" Declaration from the International Convention held in Toronto in 1965.

And in 1977, the Conference recommended that: The Responsibility Declaration not be changed, as it was made at the 1965 International Convention in Toronto.

An Interview with Bill Holloway Sobriety Date September 1st, 1991

After treatment I had a short stay at the Arc on the south side of San Antonio. I was told The Winner's Club needed a custodian. I went to work at the Winner's Club making \$70.00 a week as the custodian. I was really the janitor, but custodian sounds better. I opened up the club, made coffee, kept up the snack bar, and cleaned up at night. They gave me a free room to sleep.

An old timer walked up to me one day and he said, you know you're gonna look back at this time here as the best time in your sobriety. I thought that was a strange thing to say but it really was the best time in my sobriety. It gave me so much being around so many sober people.

My sponsor is Jim Willis, he is 93 years old with 67 years of sobriety. He's been my sponsor since I was 2 years sober. I asked him after hearing him tell his story at the Winner's Club. We worked the steps on drugs & alcohol, then later on rage & jealousy, then on how to get along in the work place without wanting to strangle people.

I probably go to 4 to 5 meetings a week, I just love the fellowship, I need people. I need to be around people. I learned early on that's where the power was, in the people. I spent my whole life thinking that all these people were my problem and it turned out that they were my solution. Just like the book says, what's the substitute well the substitute is fellowship.

Real early in my sobriety my sponsor told me to talk to the new guy. I started doing prison meetings at almost 2 years sober. It's the best 12 step work I've ever done. I have been in the past the District 12 CFC Chair.

I always say my sobriety date when I share because my first 2 sponsors always did. I was told to try and find humor in what you share, the newcomer needs to hear that. If you share some humor with your story people will better be able to see that you've overcome that from your past and you have joy about it. I think that's real important.

To the newcomer: What connected me to the group was the service, get involved with the home group. Find out what they're doing. Carry the message with others, share your experience, strength, and hope.

You've got to work the steps to find out to find what it is about you that keeps you falling short. Don't hesitate working the steps. I was on the 9th step at 4 months sober. That's very important.

I tried to sober up for 18 months, but I kept trying to drink. I wasn't working the steps wasn't being honest with anybody I was just there to get out of trouble and trying to find a girlfriend. I did it for the wrong reasons but the weight became so heavy I couldn't carry it any more. I couldn't pretend like I didn't care anymore, couldn't hide that loneliness in my eyes, that fear.

My wife and I were told she had stage 4 breast cancer that had metastasized and she probably had 2 years maybe. That's not something I believe you can take on your own. The big book calls it unaided will power. What we both did was turn it over to God, we said God you got this. So we got busy with life. We turned it all over to God. We kept praying about it. Today she is cancer free and has been for 10 years at least. She went through surgery, chemo, and radiation. I went to the doctor after he told us the cancer was gone and asked him if he thought all that prayer cured her? The doctor grinned and said, well that, plus the medicine. I believe in blessings and miracles, I've seen a lot of them.

The first guy I sponsored just celebrated 30 years last January. I was thinking about him one day 20 years ago so I called him. He asked why did you call me? I told him I was thinking about him. Mario says my dad is dying. That wasn't a coincidence... The Big Book calls it Tapping into an unsuspected unknown inner resource. I've had that resource and didn't know it.

I always give my last name Bill Holloway I want you to be able to find me.

I was in prison the first time in 1980 for a year and I got out. I didn't stay on my parole so they arrested me and sent me back. I was doing the same thing. They were trying to send me back for the third time, I was doing the same thing. Then a miracle happened. I was in a treatment center and every day I was asking God to help me, that if I had to go back I wanted Him to help me make it all right. I wanted to be able to accept it.

My attorney told me I was going back at least for 10 years, you're a repeat offender. My day in court my attorney said, "you're not going to believe what's happening here, the special prosecutor that's so hard on repeat offenders is on vacation and the judge who's court this is and has it in for repeat offenders, he's called in sick today, and that judge up there will sign anything we put in front of him, and that girl up there is my best friend in the DA's office. We made a deal for you for 3 years probation". I believe that was God working in my life.

Something I heard Bill say in a meeting..."Willingness is the key but Action is the magic word."

You can find Bill Tuesday noon at the Kerrville Group at the Zion Church at Zion

Dr. Bob's Farewell Talk

My good friends in A.A. and of A.A.,

... I get a big thrill out of looking over a vast sea of faces like this with a feeling that possibly some small thing I did a number of years ago played an infinitely small part in making this meeting possible. I also get quite a thrill when I think that we all had the same problem. We all did the same things. We all get the same results in proportion to our zeal and enthusiasm and stick-to-itiveness. If you will pardon the injection of a personal note at this time, let me say that I have been in bed five of the last seven months and my strength hasn't returned as I would like, so my remarks of necessity will be very brief.

There are two or three things that flashed into my mind on which it would be fitting to lay a little emphasis. One is the simplicity of our program. Let's not louse it all up with Freudian complexes and things that are interesting to the scientific mind, but have very little to do with our actual A.A. work. Our Twelve Steps, when simmered down to the last, resolve themselves into the words "love" and "service." We understand what love is, and we understand what service is. So let's bear those two things in mind.

Let us also remember to guard that erring member the tongue, and if we must use it, let's use it with kindness and consideration and tolerance.

And one more thing: None of us would be here today if somebody hadn't taken time to explain things to us, to give us a little pat on the back, to take us to a meeting or two, to do numerous little kind and thoughtful acts in our behalf. So let us never get such a degree of smug complacency that we're not willing to extend, or attempt to extend, to our less fortunate brothers that help which has been so beneficial to us.

Thank you very much.

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** From Dr. Bob's brief remarks on Sunday, July 30, 1950, at the First International A.A. Convention in Cleveland, Ohio.*

Grapevine News April 2024

Coming Real SOON!!
A new and improved
District 12 Website

[Highlights from AA World Service](#)

Box 459

*News and Notes from
the General Service Office of A.A.
current & past issues*

[G.S.O. New Group Listing Guidelines / Forms](#)

Does your Home Group have a special A.A. event you
would like posted in the Newsletter?

email
districtnewsletter12@gmail.com



Area 68 Accessibilities Committee is
working on offering closed captioning

District 12 News

2211 GROUP CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR
23rd ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2024

6 PM – DINNER

MEAT PROVIDED – BBQ—Cooked by 2211
ATTENDEES BRING SIDES AND DESSERTS

7 PM – FEATURED SPEAKER:

Martín G.

8 PM – BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

AND

SPLIT THE POT RAFFLE

CONTACTS: Dennis H. (512) 913-4178 Leslie G. (830) 285-3585

First Christian Church
1900 Goat Creek Road
Kerrville, TX 78028

Area 68 Grapevine/La Viña Chairperson,
Courtney A.

is hosting a presentation at our
District 12 monthly meeting on
Sunday April 14th @ 2:00PM
@ 720 Club
980 Barnett St., Kerrville 78028

New Meeting

2211 Group

@ First Christian Church
1900 Goat Creek Road
Kerrville, TX

Wednesday

7:00AM

beginning April 24th

Closed Discussion

A **CLOSED** meeting is for A.A. members only, or for those who have a drinking problem and have a desire to stop drinking.

An **OPEN** meeting of A.A. is a group meeting that any member of the community, alcoholic or nonalcoholic, may attend. Nonalcoholics may attend opens meetings as observers

2024 General Service Conference

April 14th - 20th

Brooklyn, NY Brooklyn, NY,
United States

*Read what's on the Agenda
for our*

[74th General Service
Conference Committees
... Agenda Items](#)

2025 International Convention

July 3 - 6, 2025

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

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.o>

2024 SWTA 68 Panel 74 Summer Workshop

"Sunlight of the Spirit"

July 19-21 2024

Hosted by Districts
16, 17, 18, and 1A.

Westin San Antonio North

9821 Colonnade Blvd.

San Antonio TX 78230

210.691.8888

Reservations must be made by
June 28, 2024

SWTA 68 Annual 2024 PI/CPC Conference

"Anonymous, but not Invisible"

August 9-10, 2024

District 22 Round Rock (Host)

Wingate by Wyndham Hotel
Williamson Conference Center
1209 N IH-35
Round Rock, TX 78664

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

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

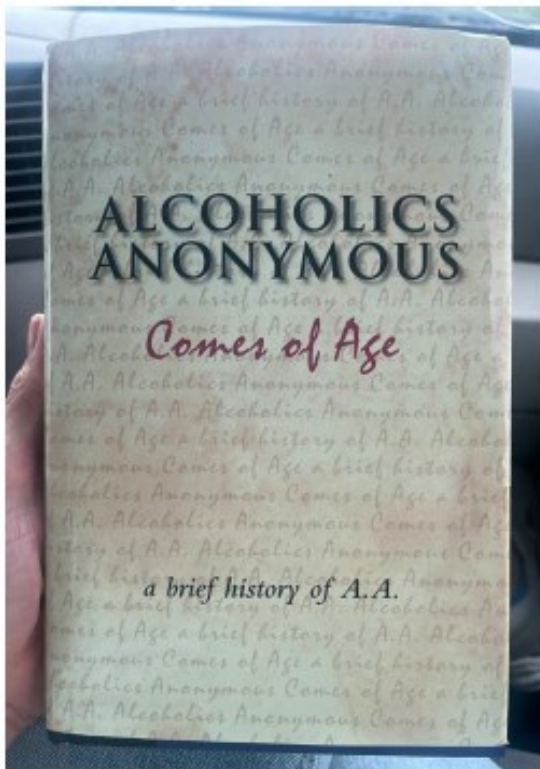
Meeting ID: 850 7691 9502

Passcode: Service24

Area 68 Book Club

Third Thurs of the month- 6:30 pm

Zoom: 218 854 3403



We meet the 3rd
Thursday

Current Book:

“Alcoholics
Anonymous
Comes of Age.”

Contact: altdelegate@aa-swta.org

All are Welcome!

**2211 GROUP CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR
23rd ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**



SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2024

6 PM – DINNER

**MEAT PROVIDED – BBQ—Cooked by 2211
ATTENDEES BRING SIDES AND DESSERTS**

7 PM – FEATURED SPEAKER:

Martín G.

8 PM – BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

AND

SPLIT THE POT RAFFLE

CONTACTS: Dennis H. (512) 913-4178 Leslie G. (830) 285-3585

**First Christian Church
1900 Goat Creek Road
Kerrville, TX 78028**



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 AI Anon Speaker
Nancy S. (Topeka, KS)
- 11:00 AM AA Speaker
Erin B. (Cleveland, OH)
- 2:30 PM NETA, NWT, A,
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)



*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>



2024 SWTA Summer Workshop

Hosted by Districts 16, 17, 18, and 1A

“Sunlight of the Spirit”

July 19 - 21



The Westin San Antonio North

9821 Colonnade Boulevard

San Antonio, TX 78230

210-691-8888

For room accommodations
request the “SWTA Summer Workshop”
rate of \$119

Reservations must be made by
June 28, 2024

“Anonymous, but not invisible”



**SWTA68 Annual
PI/CPC
Conference**



*Public Information & Cooperation
with the Professional Community*

Williamson Conference Center

1209 N IH-35, Round Rock, Texas 78664

August 9th-10th, 2024

Registration opens at 4pm, August 9th

Cost: \$10

Preregister via Eventbrite

Professional's Luncheon

Before the conference, join us for the
Professional's Luncheon and Presentation
at the Williamson Conference Center
11am-2pm, August 9th

Cost: \$20 for Alcoholics Anonymous Members

FREE for Professionals

Can't attend and want to support?

Please donate \$20 for lunch for a Professional.

Go to Eventbrite and register as "Anonymous Friend".

www.eventbrite.com 858553756397

District 22 Website



Wingate by Wyndham Hotel
1209 N IH-35
Round Rock, Texas 78664

Room Block Reservations \$109
Code: SWTA68

Hosted by District 22
Host Chair: Carolyn B. 512-771-8267
Program Chair: Donnie G. 512-945-9222

eventbrite

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL A.A. SERVICE ASSEMBLY



Service: Vital To Our Growth

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

Visit us at:

www.swraasa2024.org

For Questions: Registration@swraasa2024.org

REGISTER HERE



SCAN ME

RICHARDSON, TEXAS

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

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