



# The STAND

Issue 5

May 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.

## 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 Annual General Service Conference

In all its proceedings, the General Service Conference shall observe the spirit of the A.A. Tradition, taking great care that the Conference never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, be its prudent financial principle; that none of the Conference Members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others; that all important decisions be reached by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that no Conference action ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy; that though the Conference may act for the service of Alcoholics Anonymous, it shall never perform any acts of government; and that, like the Society of Alcoholics Anonymous which it serves, the Conference itself will always remain democratic in thought and action.

— General Warranties of the Conference Concept XII, Twelve Concepts for World Service

## Why Do We Need a Conference ?

The late Bernard B. Smith, nonalcoholic, then chairperson of the board of trustees, and one of the architects of the Conference structure, answered that question superbly in his opening talk at the 1954 meeting: “We may not need a General Service Conference to ensure our own recovery. We do need it to ensure the recovery of the alcoholic who still stumbles in the darkness one short block from this room. We need it to ensure the recovery of a child being born tonight, destined for alcoholism. We need it to provide, in keeping with our Twelfth Step, a permanent haven for all alcoholics who, in the ages ahead, can find in A.A. that rebirth that brought us back to life.

“We need it because we, more than all others, are conscious of the devastating effect of the human urge for power and prestige which we must ensure can never invade A.A. We need it to ensure A.A. against government, while insulating it against anarchy; we need it to protect A.A. against disintegration while preventing overintegration. We need it so that Alcoholics Anonymous, and Alcoholics Anonymous alone, is the ultimate repository of its Twelve Steps, its Twelve Traditions, and all of its services.

“We need it to ensure that changes within A.A. come only as a response to the needs and the wants of all A.A., and not of any few. We need it to ensure that the doors of the halls of A.A. never have locks on them, so that all people for all time who have an alcoholic problem may enter these halls unasked and feel welcome. We need it to ensure that Alcoholics Anonymous never asks of anyone who needs us what his or her race is, what his or her creed is, what his

### Inside this issue:

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Last month Concept 3 was inserted in error	
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## 5

Tradition of the Month

Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose—that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

*“SHOEMAKER, stick to thy last!” ... better do one thing supremely well than many badly. That is the central theme of this Tradition. Around it our Society gathers in unity. The very life of our Fellowship requires the preservation of this principle.*

Alcoholics Anonymous can be likened to a group of physicians who might find a cure for cancer, and upon whose concerted work would depend the answer for sufferers of this disease. True, each physician in such a group might have his own specialty. Every doctor con-

cerned would at times wish he could devote himself to his chosen field rather than work only with the group. But once these men had hit upon a cure, once it became apparent that only by their united effort could this be accomplished, then all of them would feel bound to devote themselves solely to the relief of cancer. In the radiance of such a miraculous discovery, any doctor would set his other ambitions aside, at whatever personal cost. Just as firmly bound by obligation are the members of Alcoholics Anonymous, who have demonstrated that they can help problem drinkers as others seldom can. The unique

ability of each A.A. to identify himself with, and bring recovery to, the newcomer in no way depends upon his learning, eloquence, or on any special individual skills. The only thing that matters is that he is an alcoholic who has found a key to sobriety. These legacies of suffering and of recovery are easily passed among alcoholics, one to the other. This is our gift from God, and its bestowal upon others like us is the one aim that today animates A.A.’s all around the globe.

Reprinted from *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, pg. 155, with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

## 4

Concept of the Month

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 “Participation” has been carefully built into our Conference structure. The Conference Charter specifically provides that the Trustees, the Directors of our service corporations, (A.A. World Services, Inc. and The A.A. Grapevine, Inc.) together with their respective executive staffs, shall always be voting members of the General Service Conference itself. ...

There is another good reason for “participation,” and this one has to do with our spiritual needs. All of us deep-

ly desire to *belong*. We want an A.A. relation of brotherly partnership. It is our shining ideal that the “spiritual corporation” of A.A. should never include any members who are regarded as “second class.” Deep down, I think this is what we have been struggling to achieve in our world service structure. Here is perhaps the principal reason why we should continue to ensure “participation” at every important level. Just as there are no second-class A.A.’s, neither should there be any second-class world service workers, either.

The “Right of Participation” is therefore a corrective of ultimate authority because it mitigates its harshness or misuse. It also encourages us who serve A.A. to accept the necessary disciplines that our several tasks require. We can do this when we are sure that we belong, when the fact of our “participation” assures us that we are truly the “trusted servants” described in A.A.’s Tradition Two.

Reprinted from *The A.A. Service Manual* pgs.C12-C18 with permission of A.A. World Services, Inc.

## 5

Concept of the Month

Throughout our world service structure, a traditional “Right of Appeal” ought to prevail, thus assuring us that minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered.

In the light of the principle of the “Right of Appeal,” all minorities — whether in our staffs, committees, corporate boards or among the Trustees — should be *encouraged* to file minority reports whenever they feel a majority to be in considerable error. And when a minority considers an issue to be such a grave one that a mistaken decision could seriously affect A.A. as a whole, it should then charge itself with the actual *duty* of presenting a minority report to the Conference.

In granting this traditional “Right of Appeal,” we recognize that minorities frequently can be right; that even when

they are partly or wholly in error they still perform a most valuable service when, by asserting their “Right of Appeal,” they compel a thorough-going debate on important issues. The well-heard minority, therefore, is our chief protection against an uninformed, misinformed, hasty or angry majority.

We believe that the spirit of democracy in our Fellowship and in our world service structure will always survive, despite the counter forces which will no doubt continue to beat upon us. Fortunately we are not obliged to maintain a government that enforces conformity by inflicting punish-

ments. We need to maintain only a structure of service that holds aloft our Traditions, that forms and executes our policies thereunder, and so steadily carries our message to those who suffer.

Hence we believe that we shall never be subjected to the tyranny of either the majority or the minority, provided we carefully define the relations between them and forthwith tread the path of world service in the spirit of our Twelve Steps, our Twelve Traditions, and our Conference Charter — in which I trust that we shall one day inscribe these traditional Rights of “Appeal” and “Petition.”

## Grapevine Archives

June 1944

*May* 1st was moving day for the Central office into larger quarters on Lexington Avenue near Grand Central Terminal, a much more accessible spot to out-of-town visitors. (New address--P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Annex, New York 17, N. Y.) We are already national in scope and certain to become world-wide. Hence this seems a most appropriate time to explain what the Central Office has been doing, and how well the Trustees and its staff have managed. Being somewhat responsible for the creation of the Central Office, I feel I have never made enough effort to let everyone know just how much it does.

Actually the Central Office belongs to all Groups everywhere; it is your good-will and financial support which makes it possible; it is one of your main contacts with the general public and it is one of your principal means of carrying the 12th step of the A.A. program to untold thousands of alcoholic sick people who don't yet know they can get well. In matters pertaining to the office, the Trustees are your Service Commit-

tee; its Secretary is your National Secretary.

In the month of March alone, for example, the work turned out by the secretary and her three assistants (including some overtime) was as follows: 1--They wrote 2,695 personal letters. Approxi-

### Central Office Notes

mately 2,000 of these were answers to first inquiries of alcoholics and their families averaging 100 words each. About 400 letters were written to the groups, mostly group problems. The balance was miscellaneous. 2--Six hundred telephone and telegraph messages. 3--About 100 out-of-town A.A. members visited the office. 4--Something like 400 bookkeeping entries. 5--Over 5000 A.A. pamphlets and 672 A.A. books, about a ton of material, were wrapped and shipped. 6--A detailed monthly report was made to the Trustees. 7--In addition, the Secretary participated in several conferences on future publicity and spent a week on the road visiting six of the

A.A. Groups with which she corresponds.

A small but very willing staff of four turned out this large volume of work. Our Central Office has nearly always been understaffed. Our condition right now is such that a good piece of publicity would throw us weeks behind on those vital first inquiries. We should have more help--perhaps two more typists before long.

About the offer of A.A. pins to the membership--those pins supposedly designed and approved by me! The offer was made by Royal Incentives, a perfectly reputable firm, which was sold a "bill of goods" by an alcoholic who has had a rather hectic A.A. career. Of course I knew nothing whatever of this deal. Royal Incentives, recognizing the mistake, is sending all groups a letter of explanation and apology.

By Bill W.

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# AA GRAPEVINE

The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous



## OUR TWELVE STEPS

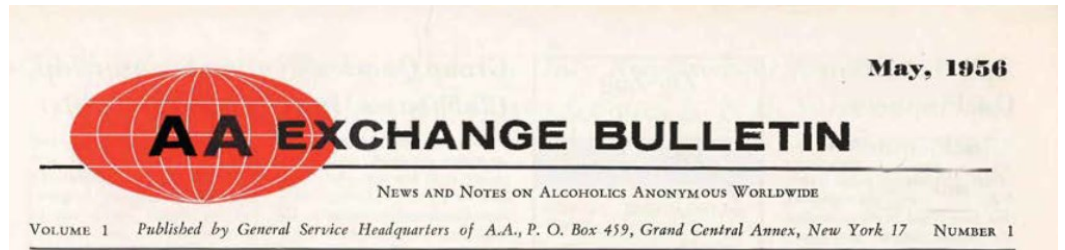
Members share experience, strength and hope as they work the AA program

## Box 459 Archives

### **Zig Zag**

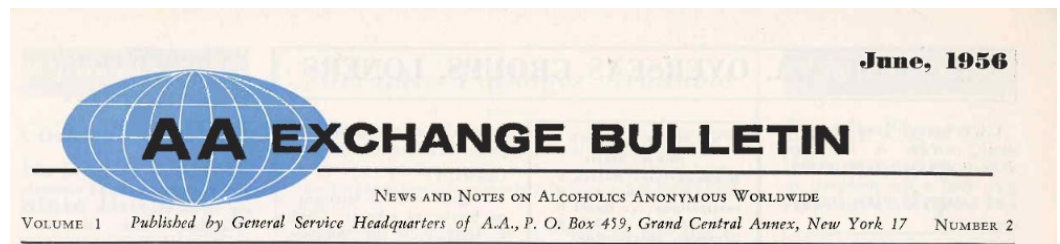
A member in Puerto Rico reports that he has sent literature to a man in Madrid at the request of a sponsor who was originally asked to cooperate by a member in Ireland who was acquainted with the sponsor through a woman member in Boston, Massachusetts.

Well, anyway, it got there!



Scrolling through Box 459 archives searching for interesting content this caught my eye! Reading this short article I am amazed and in awe at what lengths AA's go to stay sober and help another alcoholic.

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### A Celebration of the Big Book” Flash Sale

### Highlights from AAWS

### GSO Quarterly Report

### Treatment & Accessibilities Desk Activity Update

### **Texas Program Aids 169 Alkies**

The alcoholic rehabilitation program in the Texas State Hospital system on March 1 included 169 patients in six hospitals at Big Spring, Rusk, San Antonio, Terrell and Wichita Falls, according to the comprehensive "Alcoholic Program Report Number 4" released by Dr. James A. Bethea, Executive Director.

The program got under way last September and at least one A.A. member is working with staff people in each of the six hospitals. Approximately a dozen films on alcoholism and mental showings at each institution on health are in circulation for a regular schedule.



## Regional Forums

Regional Forum events allow members throughout the service structure to exchange information. They bring together:

- The General Service Board
- A.A. World Services, Inc.
- A.A. Grapevine, Inc.
- The General Service Office and Grapevine staff
- A.A. members
- Newcomers to service
- Trusted servants

Started in 1975, these unique gatherings happen four times a year. Each forum occurs in one of the eight regions of the U.S. or Canada that has extended an invitation. The regional trustee, area delegates and GSO decide on the location and agenda for Regional Forums. Together, the forums coordinator at GSO, the local A.A. host contact, and the regional trustee coordinate the details of the Forum.

See a [sample Regional Forum agenda here](#).

There is no registration fee for A.A. members for Regional Forums. The General Service Board covers the expenses of meeting rooms. In some cases, trusted servants may have travel expenses covered by area committees, districts and groups.



### [Sample Questions from last Southwest Regional Forum](#)

Q. Who is writing the "Plain Language" book and why has it been such a secret?

A. The writer's identity has been protected to guard against undue influence and ensure the integrity of the translation process. The project has not been a secret however the distribution of the draft text has been restricted to help ensure the integrity of the translation process.

Q. Is the translation of the Big Book a done deal or is there an approval process?

A. The draft translation will be subject to approval by the General Service Conference.

Q. Do we still have the option of not doing it? Are we too invested to not go ahead with it?

A. Yes. The General Service Conference could decide to not proceed further with the project.

# District 12 News

Next District Meeting ... May 12th @ 2:00pm

2211 GROUP CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR  
23<sup>rd</sup> 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



## Meeting Highlight

2211 Group @ First Christian Church  
1900 Goat Creek Road  
Kerrville, TX 78024  
Speaker Meeting  
6:00pm  
2nd Saturday of the month  
May 11th  
*Speaker*  
From Austin, TX  
*Blind Dave*

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

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

email  
districtnewsletter12@gmail.com

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

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](#)

**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**

*“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

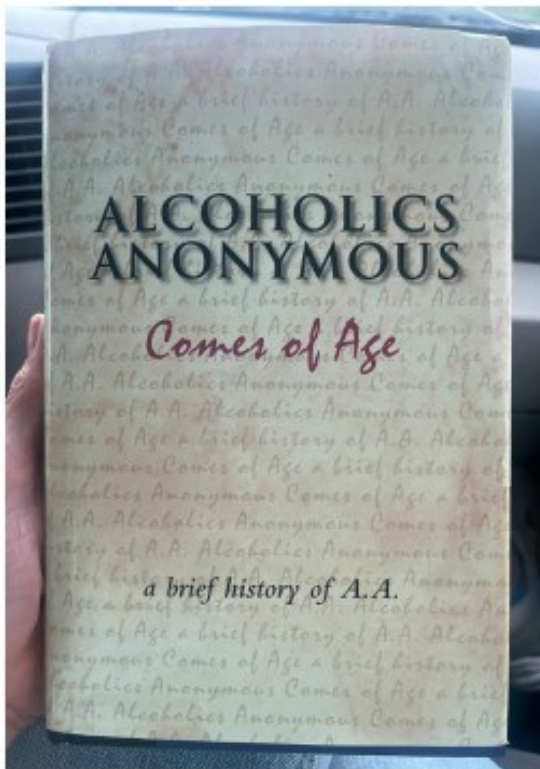
Passcode: Service24



# 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](mailto:altdelegate@aa-swta.org)

All are Welcome!

**2211 GROUP CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR  
23<sup>rd</sup> 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:**

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**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**



# 77<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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



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

Visit us at:

[www.swraasa2024.org](http://www.swraasa2024.org)

For Questions: [Registration@swraasa2024.org](mailto: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**



AA.org/International-Convention

**Save  
the  
Date!**

# 2025 A.A. International Convention

July 3-6, 2025



Scan here!



Language of the Heart  
Lenguaje del corazón  
Le langage du cœur

