

Coffee Break September

FORT WORTH CENTRAL OFFICE

1501 Hemphill St Rm A

Fort Worth, TX 76104

817-332-3533

www.fortworthaa.org

~Central Office Meetings~

Tuesday, October 8th.

Steering Committee Meeting - 6pm

Central Office Reps - 7pm

**Both meetings take place at the Harbor Club
3000 W 5th St, Fort Worth 76107*

~COMBINED DISTRICT SIX~

Saturday, October 19 – Meadowbrook Group – 11am

~ Committee Meetings ~

Special Needs - TBA

Corrections – Sunday, October 6 @ Primary Purpose – 2pm

C.P.C./P.I. – September 15 @ Southwest Grp. – 4:30pm

Grapevine – TBA

Treatment - Sunday, October 6 – Meadowbrook – 2pm

Saturday District 61 -- September 14 @ Barr St. – 9am

District 62 -- Saturday, September 14 @ Heights Group – 9:30am

District 64 -- Saturday, October 19 - @ Meadowbrook - 9am

District 74 - Sunday, September 7 - @ Hour House in Mineral Wells, 502 SE 6th. Ave. – 2pm

Step IX

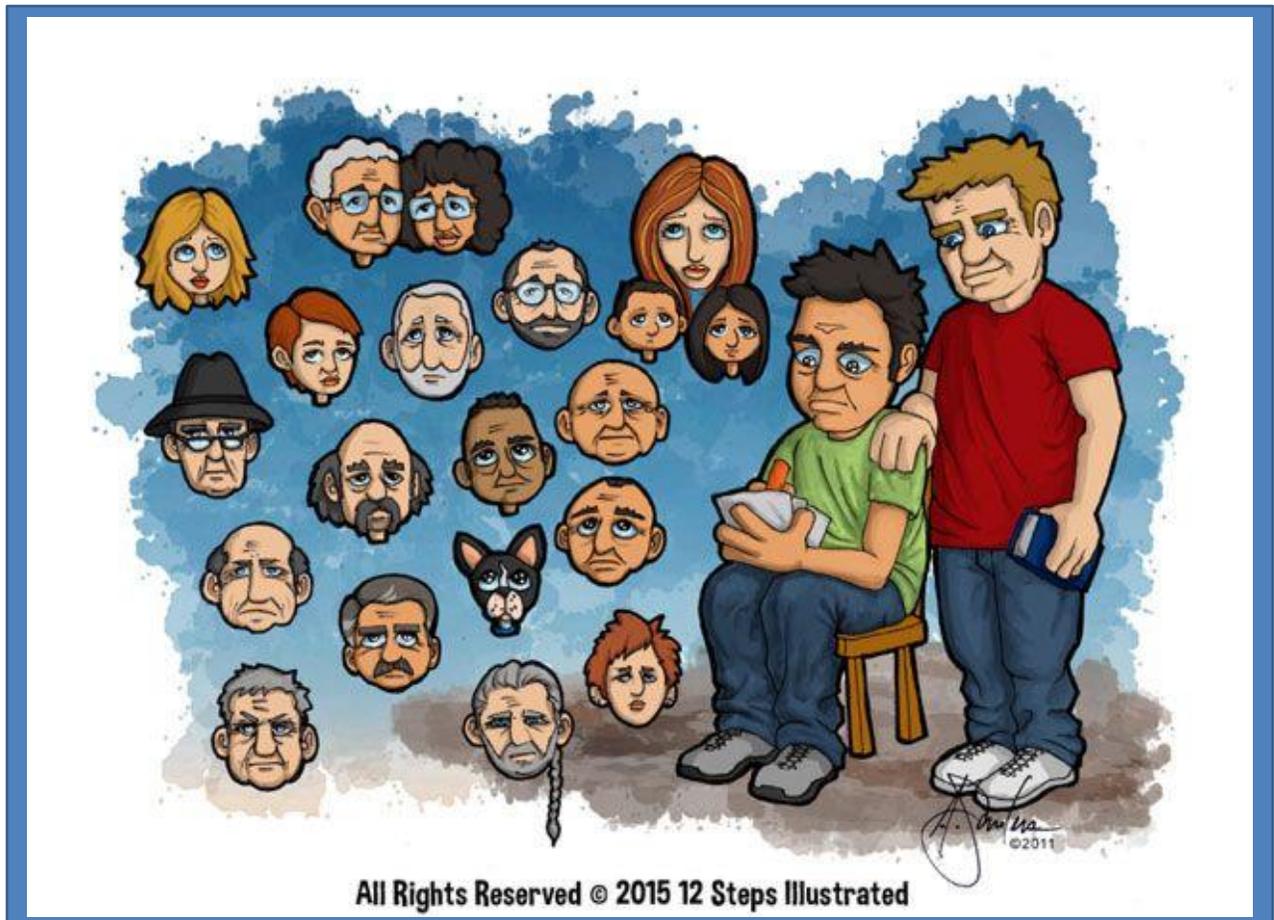
“Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.”

The alcoholic is like a tornado roaring his way through the lives of others. Hearts are broken. Sweet relationships are dead. Affections have been uprooted. Selfish and inconsiderate habits have kept the home in turmoil. We feel a man is unthinking when he says that sobriety is enough. He is like the farmer who came up out of his cyclone cellar to find his home ruined. To his wife, he remarked, "Don't see anything the matter here, Ma. Ain't it grand the wind stopped blowin'?" Yes, there is a long period of reconstruction ahead. We must take the lead. A remorseful mumbling that we are sorry won't fill the bill at all. We ought to sit down with the family and frankly analyze the past as we now see it, being very careful not to criticize them. Their defects may be glaring, but the chances are that our own actions are partly responsible. So we clean house with the family, asking each morning in meditation that our Creator show us the way of patience, tolerance, kindness and love.

The spiritual life is not a theory. *We have to live it.* Unless one's family expresses a desire to live upon spiritual principles we think we ought not to urge them. We should not talk incessantly to them about spiritual matters. They will change in time. Our behavior will convince them more than our words. We must remember that ten or twenty years of drunkenness would make a skeptic out of anyone.

There may be some wrongs we can never fully right. We don't worry about them if we can honestly say to ourselves that we would right them if we could. Some people cannot be seen - we send them an honest letter. And there may be a valid reason for postponement in some cases. But we don't delay if it can be avoided. We should be sensible, tactful, considerate and humble without being servile or scraping. As God's people we stand on our feet; we don't crawl before anyone.”

*Alcoholics Anonymous Chapter 6, “Into Action”. Pages 82,83 and 84
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Tradition IX

“A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.”

“The least possible organization, that's our universal ideal. No fees, no dues, no rules imposed on anybody, one alcoholic bringing recovery to the next; that's the substance of what we most desire, isn't it? But how shall this simple ideal best be realized? Often a question, that.

We have, for example, the kind of A.A. who is for simplicity. terrified of anything organized, he tells us that A.A. is getting too complicated. He thinks money only makes trouble, committees only make dissension, elections only make politics, paid workers only make professionals and that clubs only coddle slipees. Says he, let's get back to coffee and cakes by cozy firesides. If any alcoholics stray our way, let's look after them. But that's enough. Simplicity is our answer.

Quite opposed to such halcyon simplicity is the A.A. promoter. Left to himself he would "bang the cannon and twang the lyre" at every crossroad of the world. Millions for drunks, great A.A. hospitals, batteries of paid organizers and publicity experts wielding all the latest paraphernalia of sound and script; such would be our promoters dream. "Yes sir," he would bark "My two year plan calls for one million A.A. members by 1950!"

For one, I'm glad we have both conservatives and enthusiasts. They teach us much. The conservative will surely see to it that the A.A. movement never gets over organized. But the promoter will continue to remind us of our terrific obligation to the newcomer and to those hundreds of thousands of alcoholics still waiting all over the world to hear of A.A.

We shall, naturally, take the firm and safe middle course. A.A. has always violently resisted the idea of any general organization. Yet, paradoxically, we have ever stoutly insisted upon organizing certain *special services*; mostly those absolutely necessary to effective and plentiful 12th Step work.

If, for instance, an A.A. group elects a secretary or rotating committee, if an area forms an intergroup committee, if we set up a Foundation, a General Office or a *Grapevine*, then we are organized for service. The A.A. book and pamphlets, our meeting places and clubs, our dinners and regional assemblies--these are services too. Nor can we secure good hospital connections, properly sponsor new prospects and obtain good public relations just by chance. People have to be appointed to look after these things, sometimes paid people. Special services are performed. but by none of these special services, has our spiritual or social activity, the great current of A.A. ever been really organized or professionalized. Yet our recovery program has been enormously aided. While important, these service activities are very small by contrast with our main effort.

As such facts and distinctions become clear, we shall easily lay aside our fears of blighting organization or hazardous wealth. As a movement, we shall remain comfortably poor; for our service expenses are trifling.

With such assurances, we shall without doubt, continue to improve and extend our vital lifelines of special service; to better carry out our A.A. message to others; to make for ourselves a finer greater society, and, God willing, to assure Alcoholics Anonymous a long life and perfect unity.” Bill W.

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“Alcoholics simply will no listen to a paid twelfth-stepper. Almost from the beginning, we have been positive that face-to-face work with the alcoholic who suffers could be based on the desire to help and be helped. When an A.A. talks for money, whether at a meeting or to a single newcomers, it can have a very

Concept IX

“Good service leaders, together with sound appropriate methods of choosing them, are at all levels indispensable for our future functioning and safety . The primary world service leadership once exercised by the founders of A.A. must necessarily be assumed by the Trustees of the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.”

“No matter how carefully we design our service structure of principles and relationships, no matter how well we apportion authority and responsibility, the operating results of our structure can be no better than the personal performance of those who must man it and make it work. Good leadership cannot function well in a poorly designed structure. But weak leadership can hardly function at all, even in the best structures. But once we have created a basically sound structure, that job is finished, except for occasional refinements.

With *leadership* we shall have a continuous problem. Good leadership can be here today and gone tomorrow. Furnishing our service structure with able and willing workers has to be a continuous activity. It is therefore a problem that in its very nature cannot be permanently solved. We must continuously find the right people for our many service tasks. Since our future effectiveness must thus depend upon ever-new generations of leaders, it seems desirable that we now proceed to define what a good service leader should be; that we carefully indicate in each level of service, especially in our Board of Trustees, what special skills will always be required; and that we review our present methods of finding and choosing that leadership.

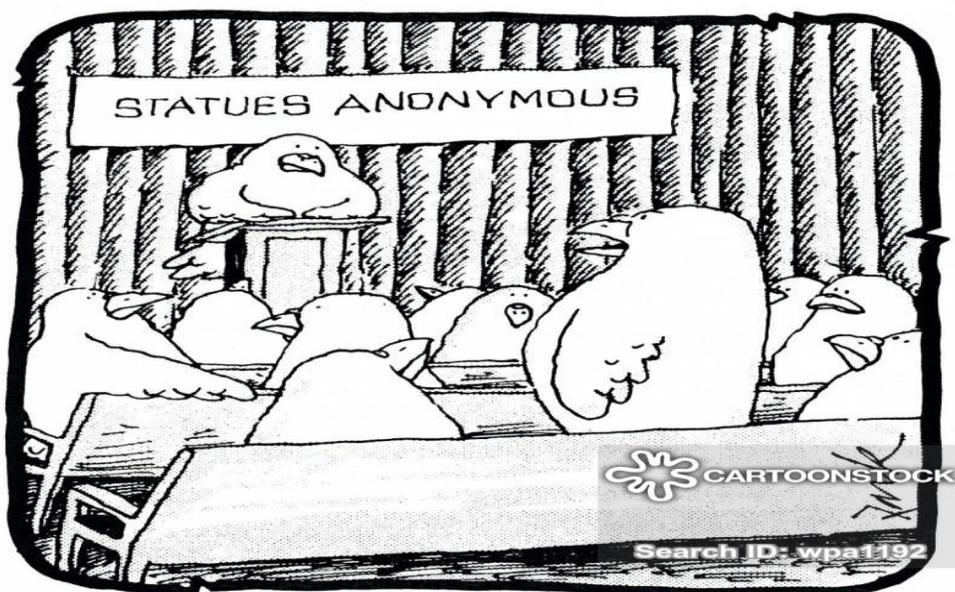
First let’s remember that the base for our service structure rests on the dedication and ability of several thousand General Service Representatives (G.S.R.’s), several hundred area Committee Members, and nearly a hundred Delegates. These are the direct agents of the A.A. groups; these are the primary representatives of A.A.’s group conscience. Without their support and activity we could not operate permanently at all.

When making their choices of G.S.R.’s, the A.A. groups should therefore have such facts well in mind. It ought to be remembered *that it is only the G. S. R.’s who*, in Group Assembly meetings can name Committee Members and finally name the Delegates. Hence great care needs to be taken by the groups as they choose these Representatives. Hit-or-miss methods should be avoided. Groups who name no G.S.R.’s should be encouraged to do so. In this area a degree of weakness tends to persist. The needed improvement seems to be a matter of increased care, responsibility and education.

As the G.S.R.’s meet in their Assemblies to name Delegates, an even greater degree of care and dedication will be required. Personal ambitions will have to be cast aside, feuds and controversy forgotten. “Who are the best qualified people that we can name?” This should be the thought of all.

Thus far our Third Legacy method of naming Delegates by a two-thirds vote or by lot has proved highly satisfactory. This system of choosing has greatly reduced political friction; it has made each Delegate feel that he or she is truly a world servant rather than just the winner of a contest. In Committee Members and Delegates alike, our Third Legacy methods have generally produced people of a high level of dedication and competence. In this area of service we are in good shape. Our Area Assemblies need only to continue to act with care and in selfless good spirit.”

Used with permission of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Service Manual pg. 34-35



“My name’s Bud, I’m a pigeon, and I bomb statues.”

SPECIAL EVENTS

Miracles at Lake Murray

September 6-8th.
3323 Lodge Rd.,
Ardmore, OK 73401
(MiraclesAtLakeMurray.com)

12 Steps, Traditions & Concepts/Horizontal Workshop

Saturday, Sept 7, 9:00am-4:00p.
Northway Christian Church
7202 W. Northwest Hwy.
Dallas, TX 75225

FTW 2020 Texas State Convention Sign Up To Be A Volunteer

<http://txaaconvention.org/volunteer>
or visit www.txaaconvention.org

The Arlington Group 61 Anniversary

Sep 15, 1:30-5:00p
1226 S. Bowen Rd., Arlington, TX
76013

2019 Fall NETA 65 Convention & Assembly

September 20-22
Host Dist. 21
Convention at Cascades Conf. Ctr.
Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott
5909 Stone Creek Dr., The Colony,
TX 75056

National AA Technology Workshop

September 20-22
Holiday Inn: University
1021 Wilkinson Trace
Bowling Green, KY 42103
<http://natw.org/>

Area 65 Corrections Conference

October 5, 9:00am-4:00pm
Creekwood United Methodist
Church 261 Country Club Rd.
Allen, 75002

Southwest Regional Forum

October 11-13
Sheraton North Houston at
George Bush Intercontinental
regionalforums@aa.org

NETA65 Area Committee

October 20, 2019
2:00pm – 5:00pm at
St. Mark United Methodist
Church
1109 W. Henderson St.
Cleburne, TX 76133

Area Inventory

November 10, 2019
1:30pm-5:00pm
Arlington Group, 1266 South
Bowen Rd., Arlington, TX
76013

75th Texas State Convention

June 12-14, 2020
Hilton Forth Worth
815 Main St.
Ft. Worth Texas, 76102

Fort Worth Central Office



1501 Hemphill, Room A
Fort Worth, Texas 76104
817-332-3533 or 800-396-1602
Spanish 817-921-6882

www.officemgr@fortworthaa.org

www.fortworthaa.org



NIGHTLINE

We need YOU!



NIGHTLINE is the Fort Worth Central Office information center for non-business hours.

We **NEED** volunteers to answer phones **FROM HOME!**

Come join us & learn how you can perform your service work from the comfort of your own home while helping others!

****Must have one year sobriety to volunteer for this position!****

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

