

# Coffee Break January 2020



## FORT WORTH CENTRAL OFFICE

1501 Hemphill St Rm A

Fort Worth, TX 76104

817-332-3533

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

~Central Office Meetings~

Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>.

Steering Committee Meeting - 6pm

Central Office Reps - 7pm

*\*Both meetings take place at the Harbor Club  
3000 W 5<sup>th</sup> St, Fort Worth 76107*

~COMBINED DISTRICT SIX~

Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. @ Meadowbrook Group – 11am

~Committee Meetings~

**Special Needs Sharing Session** -Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.

@ Harbor Group – 10:00am

**Corrections** – Sunday, February 2 @ Primary Purpose – 2:00pm

**C.P.C./P.I.** - Sunday, January 19 @ Southwest Grp. – 4:30pm

**Grapevine** – Saturday, January 11 @ Primary Purpose – 9:00am

**Treatment** - Sunday, February 2 @ Meadowbrook – 2:00pm

**Saturday District 61** – Saturday, Jan 11 @ Barr St. – 9:00 am

**District 62** - Saturday, January 4<sup>th</sup>. @ Golden Triangle Grp. – 9:00am

**District 64** - Saturday, February 8<sup>th</sup>.@ Meadowbrook – 9:00am

**District 74** - Sunday, January 12 @ Weatherford Group – 2:00pm

## Step I

**"We admitted we were powerless over alcohol –that our lives had become unmanageable."**

"Who cares to admit complete defeat? Practically no one, of course. Every natural instinct cries out against the idea of personal powerlessness. It is truly awful to admit that, glass in hand, we have warped our minds into such an obsession for destructive drinking that only an act of Providence can remove it from us.

No other kind of bankruptcy is like this one. Alcohol, now become the rapacious creditor, bleeds us of all self-sufficiency and all will to resist its demands. Once this stark fact is accepted, our bankruptcy as going human concerns is complete.

But upon entering A.A. we soon take quite another view of this absolute humiliation. We perceive that only through utter defeat are we able to take our first steps toward liberation and strength. Our admissions of personal powerlessness finally turn out to be firm bedrock upon which happy and purposeful lives may be built.

We know that little good can come to any alcoholic who joins A.A. unless he has first accepted his devastating weakness and all its consequences. Until he so humbles himself, his sobriety – if any – will be precarious. Of real happiness he will find none at all. Proved beyond doubt by an immense experience, this is one of the facts of A. A. life. The principle that we shall find no enduring strength until we first admit complete defeat is the main taproot from which our whole Society has spring and flowered.

When first challenged to admit defeat, most of us revolted. We had approached A.A. expecting to be taught self-confidence. Then we had been told that so far as alcohol is concerned, self-confidence was no good whatever; in fact, it was a total liability. Our sponsors declared that we were the victims of a mental obsession so subtly powerful that no amount of human willpower could break it. There was, they said, no such thing as the personal conquest of this compulsion by the unaided will. Relentlessly deepening our dilemma, our sponsors pointed out our increasing sensitivity to alcohol – an allergy, they called it. The tyrant alcohol wielded a double-edged sword over us: first we were smitten by an insane urge that condemned us to go on drinking, and then by an allergy of the body that insured we would ultimately destroy ourselves in the process. Few indeed were those who, so assailed, had ever won through in singlehanded combat. It was a statistical fact that alcoholics almost never recovered on their own resources. And this had been true, apparently, ever since man had first crushed grapes.

In A.A.'s pioneering time, none but the most desperate cases could swallow and digest this unpalatable truth. Even these "last-gaspers" often had difficulty in realizing how hopeless they actually were. But a few did, and when these laid hold of A.A. principles with all the fervor with which the drowning seize life preservers, they almost invariably got well. That is why the first edition of the book "Alcoholics Anonymous," published when our membership was small, dealt with low-bottom cases only. Many less desperate alcoholics tried A.A. but did not succeed because they could not make the admission of hopelessness."

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg. 21 – 23.  
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# Tradition I

**"Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends up-on A.A. unity."**

"The unity of Alcoholics anonymous is the most cherished quality our Society has. Our lives, the lives of all to come, depend squarely upon it. We stay whole, or A.A. dies. Without unity, the heart of A.A. would cease to beat; our world arteries would no longer carry the life-giving grace of God; His gift to us would be spent aimlessly. Back again in their caves, alcoholics would reproach us and say, "What a great thing A. A. might have been!"

"Does this mean," some will anxiously ask, "that in A.A. the individual doesn't count for much"? Is he to be dominated by his group and swallowed up in it?"

We may certainly answer this question with a loud "No!" We believe there isn't a fellowship on earth which lavishes more devoted care upon its individual members; surely there is none which more jealously guards the individual's right to think, talk, and act as he wishes. No A.A. can compel another to do anything; nobody can be punished or expelled. Our Twelve Steps to recovery are suggestions; the Twelve Traditions which guarantee A.A.'s unity contain not a single "Don't." They repeatedly say, "We ought..." but never "You must!"

To many minds all this liberty for the individual spell's sheer anarchy. Every newcomer, every friend who looks at A.A. for the first time is greatly puzzled. They see liberty verging on license, yet they recognize at once that A.A. has an irresistible strength of purpose and action. "How," they ask, "can such a crowd of anarchists function at all? How can they possible place their common welfare first? What in Heaven's name holds the together?"

Those who look closely soon have the key to this strange paradox. The A.A. member has to conform to the principles of recovery. His life actually depends upon obedience to spiritual principles. If he deviates too far, the penalty is sure and swift; he sickens and dies. At first, he goes along because he must, but later he discovers a way of life he really wants to live. Moreover, he finds he cannot keep this priceless gift unless he gives it away. Neither he nor anybody else can survive unless he carries the A.A. message. The moment this Twelfth Step work forms a group, another discovery is made – that most individuals cannot recover unless there is a group. Realization dawns that he is but a small part of a great whole; that no personal sacrifice is too great for preservation of the Fellowship. He learns that the clamor of desires and ambitions within him must be silenced whenever these could damage the group. It becomes plain that the group must survive, or the individual will not."

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg. 129 – 130.

Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions pg. 129 – 130.  
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## CONCEPT I

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

“The A.A. groups today hold ultimate responsibility and final authority for our world services — those special elements of over-all service activity which make it possible for our Society to function as a whole. The groups assumed that responsibility at the St. Louis International Convention of 1955. There, on behalf of Dr. Bob, the Trustees and A.A.’s old-time leaders, I made the transfer of world service responsibility to our entire Fellowship.

Why, and by what authority was this done? There were reasons of stark necessity for it, and there were further reasons which have to do with A.A.’s fundamental structure and tradition.

By the year 1948 our necessities had become clear enough. Ten years earlier — in 1938 — helped by dedicated friends, Dr. Bob and I had commenced work upon a world service structure. Our first step was the creation of a trusteeship for A.A. as a whole. We called this body The Alcoholic Foundation; and in 1954 it was renamed The General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

This trusteeship was designed to inaugurate and maintain all of those special services for A.A. as a whole that could not well be performed by single groups or areas. We envisioned the writing of a uniform A.A. literature, the development of a sound public relations policy, and a means of handling the large numbers of pleas for help that might follow in the wake of national and international publicity. We thought in terms of aiding new groups to form and of furnishing them with counsel based upon the experience of the older and already successful groups. We thought there would be a need for a monthly magazine and also for translations of our literature into other languages.”

Serviced Manual Pg. 6

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## **Big Book Quote of the Month:**

*If, when you honestly want to, you find you cannot quit entirely, or if when drinking, you have little control over the amount you take, you are probably alcoholic. If that be the case, you may be suffering from an illness which only spiritual experience will conquer.”*

Alcoholics Anonymous Pg. 44

# **SPECIAL EVENTS**

## **2020 GSR/DCM Orientations January 2020**

**(Central)** 1/12/20 @ 1:30pm-5:30pm, Center of Unity Grapevine Church, 1650 Hughes Rd., Grapevine, TX

**(East)** 1/19/20 @ 1:30pm – 5:30pm, Downtown Suburban Group, 1034 E. Lake St Tyler, TX

**(West)** 1/26/20 @ 1:30pm – 5:30pm. Eastland Group, 302 N. College Ave., Eastland, TX 76448

**\*Orientations followed by informal GSR & DCM sharing sessions.**

## **How to Chair a Meeting Workshop**

January 26, 2020 @1:00 – 3:00pm  
Lewisville Group, 419 S. Mill St.,  
Lewisville, TX 75057

## **Service Position Workshop**

February 2, 2020 @ 12:00pm – 1:45pm, Ray of Hope Group, 715 S. Seven Points Blvd., Suite D, Seven Points, Texas 75143

## **Sponsorship Workshop**

February 8, 2020pm – 4:00pm  
Rockwall Big Book Group, 113  
Kenway St., Ste. 109

## **Winter ACM**

February 9, 2020, 1:30pm – 4:30pm  
Primary Purpose Grp., 1802 West  
Division St., Arlington, TX 76012

## **Save the Date**

## **AA Central Office Chili Cook Off & Open House**

Saturday, February 15, 2020  
11:00 am – 4:00 pm

## **2020 Spring Area Assembly**

March 27 – 29, 2020  
Mesquite Convention &  
Expo Center 1700 Rodeo  
Dr., Mesquite, TX 75149

## **75<sup>th</sup> Texas State Convention**

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

Ft. Worth Texas, 76102

## **Convention Sign Up to Be A Volunteer**

<http://txaaconvention.org/volunteer> or visit  
[www.txaaconvention.org](http://www.txaaconvention.org)

## **2020 Summer Assembly (Post Conference)**

June 19-21, 2020  
Hilton Garden Inn (PENDING)  
Longview, TX

## **2020 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous**

July 2 – 5, 2020  
Ford Field, 2000 Brush St.  
Detroit, MI 48226

## **2020 Fall Election Assembly & Convention**

September 18-20, 2020  
Hilton Garden Inn (PENDING),  
Arlington, TX

## **2020 Southwest Regional**

Embassy Suites Amarillo, 550  
S. Buchanan St. Amarillo, TX  
79101

*Hello Everyone!*

*I just wanted to drop in and let y'all know of some exciting changes that will be happening here at your Fort Worth Central Office for the new year 2020! These changes are being made to, hopefully, save us some money and increase our communication.*

*1. In order to expand and improve our communication with groups and individual members, we are starting a secret Facebook page, for information only, available to any AA member to join, if they want to be a part of the Central Office communication. Now, this WILL NOT take the place of our current methods of communication through email, mail, phone calls etc. It will only add to and better serve our members and groups!*

*2. A decision has been made to begin adding a small convenience fee to all credit Card/Debit Card purchases. This will help offset the fees that the office gets charged each time we run a card. So, for any payments \$50.00 to \$200.00 will have a convenience fee of \$2.00 added to the total and an payments over \$200.00 will have a \$3.00 convenience fee added. This will take effect January 1, 2020.*

*3. We are changing our financial system! After much discussion, we have made the decision to switch to Quickbooks. This will save us money and is a simpler program that will benefit us and you in many areas. We ask you to please be patient with us during our transition as we get it all set up and learn the new program. We are planning to be able to start using it by January 1st, 2020!*

*4. As you all know, we send out monthly CoffeeBreak mailers each month. We are asking that all groups/individuals that would like to add their flyer/schedule to the packet, to start sending us 45 copies by the 25th of each month OR if you are unable to provide copies, your group may send a small contribution to cover the cost of the copies. This will save the office a little money on ink and paper and we would greatly appreciate the help it will provide us!!*

*Lastly, we have a new Central Office Steering Committee/COR Chair! Please welcome Kenneth S at the next meeting! :) He will do a great job!*

*If you have any questions about any of this, please don't hesitate to call me anytime! If I am not at the office you may call me on my cell number, which is below....*

*We appreciate and value your input and look forward to a new and prosperous year!*

***!THANK YOU!***

***Thank you Thank you Thank you to all those that have been sending in contributions! We are receiving wonderful gifts and are so very grateful for every one of them. Every little bit helps. You all are making in possible for us to be here and to continue helping the next suffering alcoholic. Keep 'em comin'~~We are making great progress!***

***In Gratitude,  
Erin and EJ***

***Erin 817-420-3866  
EJ 817-637-2891***

## ***We have some great news!!***

You can now make contributions and payments **online!**

Yes, finally!!

You can send money directly to your Fort Worth Central Office from your (or your group's) bank account using **Zelle!** You can set this up from your online banking website and send payments straight to the CO bank account. All you need is the email which is [officemgr@fortworthaa.org](mailto:officemgr@fortworthaa.org) and make sure to write in the memo section who it's from and what it's for (and any contact info in you wish) I can then email you a receipt.

Please feel free to call me anytime with questions, I will be happy to help!

**zelle**<sup>®</sup>



## **Would you like to be a Central Office Supporting Member?**

### **Central Office Supporting Membership**

AA's know the many vital contributions made by the Central Office and are often willing to contribute directly to its support. The Fort Worth Central Office is designed to be fully self-supporting through the contributions of the A.A. members and groups it serves; and through its own activities, such as literature sales. It does not accept contributions from any non-A.A. member or organization. Contributions from groups and members as well as literature sales vary significantly each month. The combined income does not provide a predictable operating budget.

The Office is now inviting AA's to contribute affordable amounts directly and regularly as Supporting Members. You are a Supporting Member if you are an A.A. member and you say you are a supporting member. The amount that is affordable to you is your decision; a dollar a day, a dollar a week, ten dollars a month or any other amount.

The goal is to establish a predictable added base of income to support office work. Supporting Member contributions will not affect existing Home Group contributions.

Simply call the Central Office at 817-332-3533 during regular working hours, and offer your name, contact information, and the amount you choose to contribute monthly.

Donor names will not be published. The only requirement is that you be a member of Alcoholics Anonymous. *The method of payment may be check by mail, "Bill-Pay" service, cash at the office (do not mail cash), debit card (over phone or at the office) or online through Zelle! (which is free for us!)* At the end of the year, or when requested, a statement of contributions can be sent. Supporting Member contributions are tax deductible.

Contact the Central Office for more information about becoming a Supporting Member.

Our Seventh Tradition states that: