



# DISTRICT 81

## MAY 2023

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### **Step 5:**

***Admitted to God, to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.***

### **Tradition 5:**

***Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.***

### **Concept 5:**

***Throughout our structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.***

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**WHEN ANYONE, ANYWHERE,  
REACHES OUT FOR HELP; I WANT  
THE HAND OF AA ALWAYS TO BE  
THERE. AND FOR THAT: I AM  
RESPONSIBLE.**

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# UPCOMING EVENTS & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

**May 2: District 81 meeting** 7pm at Kelley's in La Marque 4604 Gulf Fwy, La Marque, TX 77568

**May 5-7: Mouth of the Brazos Conference** at the Lake Jackson Civic Center 333 Highway 332, Lake Jackson, TX 77566; see flyer for details and registration info!

**May 10: Correctional Facilities Committee** meeting 6:30pm at the Bay Area Club 2111 Webster St, League City, TX 77573

**May 13: 5th Step 5th Tradition Workshop** 3-4:30pm hosted by the Tri-Cities Group at 2425 FM 1092 Rd, Missouri City, TX 77459; see flyer!

**May 17: Website Committee meeting** 6pm online; send email to john.a@aa-seta.org to be added to the Google Meet invite.

**May 17: Literature Committee meeting** 7:30pm on the back porch at the Bay Area Club 2111 Webster St, League City, TX 77573

**May 20: Spring Grapevine Workshop** 1:30-4:30pm presented by District 70, hosted by Up the Street Club 17400 El Camino Real, Suite 800 Webster, TX 77058; see flyer!

**May 25: PI/CPC Committee meeting** 5pm at the Bay Area Club 2111 Webster St, League City, TX 77573

**May 26: Archives Committee meeting** 2pm at the Alvin Taylor Street Club 204 S Taylor Street, Alvin, TX 77511

**May 29: Newsletter Committee meeting** 5pm at the Helen Hall Public Library - 100 W. Walker St., League City; email gwen.r@aa-seta.org for more info.

**May 30: Grapevine Committee meeting** 6pm at the Texas City Group 518 6th Ave N, Texas City, TX 77590

**May 31: Finance & Budget meeting** 6:30pm at Jason's Deli in League City 2755 Gulf Fwy S, League City, TX 77573

**May 31: Treatment Facilities Committee meeting** 6:30pm via Zoom: 868-5564-9879; passcode: 06-10-1935

**June 4: Women's Sponsorship Workshop** 1-5pm 24307 Aldine Westfield Rd, Spring, TX 77373; RSVP with Jennifer C. at jennifer.c@aa-seta.org; see flyer!

**June 4: Treatment Facilities Committee Workshop** 1:30pm at the Bay Area Club 2111 Webster St, League City, TX 77573 ; see flyer!

**June 9-11 76th Annual Texas State A.A. Convention** at the Westin San Antonio North 9821 Colonnade Blvd, San Antonio, TX 78230; registration \$25 online, \$30 at the door.

## 27th Annual Mouth of the Brazos Conference

*"Have you a sufficient substitute?"*

Friday, May 5th, 2023 - Sunday, May 7th, 2023

### Friday, May 5th, 2023

### Location

5:00 pm Registration Opens  
 5:00 - 7:30 pm Food & Fellowship  
 7:30 - 8:00 pm Welcome  
 Pre-Registration Door Prizes  
 Mini Raffle  
 8:00 - 9:00 pm AA Speaker  
 Tracie J., Dallas, TX  
 10:00 - 11:00 pm Discussion Meeting

Lake Jackson Civic Center  
 333 Highway 332  
 Lake Jackson, Texas 77566  
 (979) 415-2600

### Hospitality Room

Friday: 5:00 pm - 11:30 pm  
 Saturday: 8:00 am - 11:00 pm  
 Sunday: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Hospitality Room will be closed during all Speaker Meetings & Workshop**

### Nearby Hotels

Comfort Suites (979) 297-5545  
 Towneplace Suites (979) 388-9300  
 Quality Inn (979) 265-8460  
 Texas Inn & Suites (979) 266-7774

### Registration

AA / Al-Anon Pre-Registration \$20.00  
 AA / Al-Anon On-Site Registration \$25.00  
 Al-ATeen On-Site Registration \$ 5.00

Pre-Registration Cutoff Date: 5/01/2023

For further information e-mail:  
 Corey.c@aa-seta.org

### Saturday, May 6th, 2023

8:00 am Registration Opens, Breakfast  
 8:30 - 9:30 am Early Bird Meeting  
 10:00 - 11:30 am Workshop-Friendships in AA  
 11:45 - 1:00 pm Lunch  
 1:00 - 1:45 pm Al-Anon meeting  
 2:00 - 3:00 pm Al-Anon Speaker  
 Cindy K., Fort Worth, Tx  
 4:00 - 5:00 pm Old Timer's Meeting (25+ years)  
 5:00 - 6:30 pm Food & Fellowship  
 6:40 - 7:00 pm Skit  
 7:00 - 8:00 pm Raffle, Sobriety Countdown  
 8:00 - 9:00 pm AA Speaker  
 Georgia B., Los Angeles, CA  
 9:15 - 9:45 pm Ice Cream Social  
 10:00 - 11:00 pm Discussion Meeting

### Sunday, May 22, 2022

8:00 am Breakfast  
 8:30 - 9:30 am Early Bird Meeting  
 10:00 - 11:00 am AA Speaker  
 Gary K., Sulphur Spring, TX  
 12:00 pm Closing

### Pre-Registration Mail-In Form

Name: _____	Name: _____
Badge Name: _____	Badge Name: _____
Address: _____	Address: _____
City: _____	City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____	State: _____ Zip: _____
HOME GROUP: _____	HOME GROUP: _____

( ) AA, \$20.00    ( ) Al-Anon, \$20.00    ( ) AA, \$20.00    ( ) Al-Anon, \$20.00

Make Checks Payable to: Mouth of the Brazos Conference  
 P.O. Box 1641 Clute, TX 77531

**AAGRAPEVINE**  
 The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous

**SATURDAY  
 MAY 20, 2023  
 1:30-4:30 PM**

Giveaways!  
 Food!  
 Fellowship!  
 Fun!

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS  
 SETA DISTRICT 70 PRESENTS**

## The 2023 Spring GRAPEVINE WORKSHOP

Grapevine magazines, books and web resources should be an essential part of our sober lifestyle. Learn how to utilize, AND CONTRIBUTE to this rich resource, and bring your program into the HERE and NOW!

**UP THE STREET CLUB  
 17400 EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 800  
 WEBSTER, TEXAS 77058**

[upthestreetclub.org](http://upthestreetclub.org)

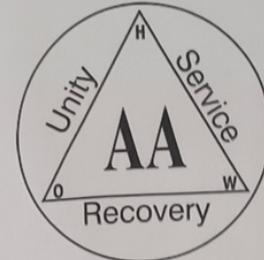
### Learn how to:

- Write your story
- Submit your story
- Become a Grapevine Representative
- Utilize Grapevine web resources
- Get involved with Grapevine
- Carry the Message

Wi-Fi available.

Bring your tablet or laptop.

For further information contact  
[thaddeus.d@aa-seta.org](mailto:thaddeus.d@aa-seta.org)



Spring Group is Hosting

## Women's Sponsorship Workshop

Sunday, June 4, 2023

24307 Aldine Westfield Rd, Spring, TX 77373

1pm to 5pm



© CanStockPhoto.com

How to be a sponsor and sponsee, along with a panel for questions & answers.

Come out for fun, food (feel free to bring food to share) and fellowship!

R.S.V.P. with Jennifer C. at [jennifer.cr@aa-seta.org](mailto:jennifer.cr@aa-seta.org)

## Tri-Cities Group WORKSHOP 5th Step 5th Tradition

May 13, 2023 | 3pm - 4:30pm

### Guest Speakers

In-Person 2425 FM 1092 Rd,  
 Missouri City, TX 77459



Treatment Facilities  
Committee Workshop

Alcoholics Anonymous

Want to be of service to new  
members of AA?

Where?  
Bay Area Club  
2111 Webster St, League  
City, TX 77573



Sunday,  
June 4, 2023  
1:30 PM



## 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas State AA Convention

San Antonio, Texas

June 9 – 11, 2023

*"The age of miracles is still with us. Our own recovery proves that!"*

### Scheduled AA Speakers

Willard M. Austin, TX  
Gary K. Sulphur Springs, TX  
Tisa B. Sheep Springs, NM  
Jackie K. Granbury, TX  
Chris R. Ingram, TX  
Old Timers Panel  
Texas Panel 71 and 72, Delegates  
G.S.O.: Jimmy D. Dallas, TX  
Al-Anon: Stephanie B. Granite Shoals, TX

### Hotel Information

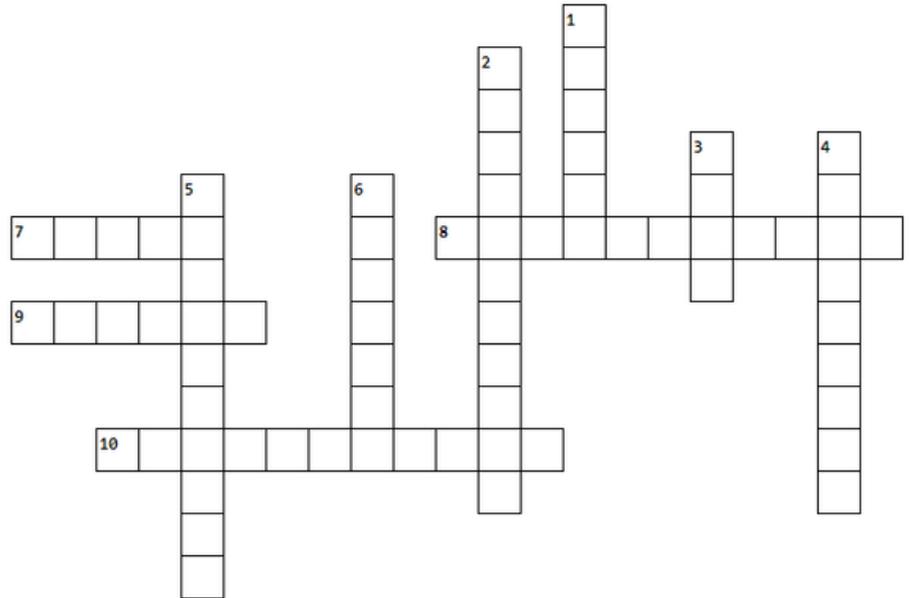
The Westin San Antonio North  
9821 Colonnade Boulevard  
San Antonio, Texas 78230  
210-691-8888  
Room Rates \$125 - \$145  
Booking Code: (Texas State AA Convention)

**Registration Fee: \$30.00 at the door; early online registration \$25.00**

Visit our website <https://txaaconvention.org> for updates, agenda, and registration.

## PROMISES

This month's  
crossword puzzle  
borrows from our  
3rd, 9th, and 10th  
step promises.  
Good luck!



### Across

7. a balancing device used to measure weight
8. done with great care and thoroughness
9. sound mental health
10. "will slip away"

### Down

1. resurrected
2. like, unbelievable
3. a lack of faith
4. aware, awake
5. "--safe and protected"
6. a gift from God

# A.A. MEMORIES

Dec. of 1934 – Bill W.'s spiritual experience.

May of 1935 – Bill W. meets Dr. Bob in Akron, Ohio on Mother's Day.

June 10th of 1935 – Bill W. and Dr. Bob found the fellowship of AA.

November of 1937 – Bill W. and Dr. Bob see growth in AA with 40 members sober.

January of 1938 – Jim B., former atheist gives AA "God as we understand him."

December of 1938 – Twelve steps are written.

Early 1939 – AA membership reaches 100.

February of 1939 – Dr. Harry Tiebout becomes first psychiatrist to endorse AA principles and practices.

April of 1939 – AA Big Book is published.

August of 1939 – Dr. Bob and Sister Ignatia start work at St. Thomas Hospital in Akron, Ohio.

March of 1941 – Saturday Evening Post's Jack Alexander article on AA creates national sensation: AA membership will quadruple in one year from 2,000 to 8,000.

June of 1941 – New York AA member spots Serenity Prayer in local newspaper and it is promptly adopted by fellowship.

Feb. of 1943 – AAs are granted the right to use cars for 12th step work in emergency cases, despite WW 2 rationing.

June of 1944 – AA Grapevine of established.

1946 – AA 12 Traditions are formulated and published in Grapevine.

May of 1950 – Nell Wing becomes Bill W., s secretary and AA's first archivist.

June of 1950 – First International Conference of AA held at Cleveland, Ohio. Traditions adopted.

November 16th of 1950 – Dr. Bob passes away.

April of 1951 – First General Service Conference met in New York City. The theme was "Not to Govern, but to Serve."

January 9th , 1952 – Al-Anon first headquarters established in New York City.

June of 1953 – The book of Twelve Steps and 12 Traditions is published.

May of 1954 – Akron, Ohio Intergroup opens.

July 1st to 3rd of 1955 – AA's Three Legacies of Recovery, Unity, and Service are turned over to the fellowship of large by its old timers at the International Conference in St. Louis, Missouri.

January 21st , 1971 – Bill W. passes away.

1973 – The AA Archives is formerly established at GSO in New York City.

1988 – Lois W., widow of Bill W. and co-founder of Al-Anon, dies at age of 97.

**Submitted by Tom B.**

**MAY 2023**



## **Does your home group have a Grapevine Rep?**

“Grapevine Representatives are the link between AA Grapevine and the groups. It's a fun way to get involved! All you have to do is announce the latest issue at your meeting, let people know how they can participate by sending in stories, or jokes. It's easy to get started. Simply let your homegroup know that you are interested. Register with us online and you will receive a complete information kit from the Grapevine office.”

[aagrapevine.org/get-involved/become-grapevine-rep](http://aagrapevine.org/get-involved/become-grapevine-rep)

**AAGRAPEVINE**  
The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous

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## **FEATURED PRAYER**

*HEAVENLY FATHER,  
BLESS THIS FOOD TO OUR BODIES,  
AND BLESS US TO YOUR SERVICE,  
AND MAY WE ALWAYS DO YOUR WILL.  
AMEN.*

Submitted by S.R.

*"FEELINGS COME AND GO  
LIKE CLOUDS IN A WINDY SKY.  
CONSCIOUS BREATHING IS MY  
ANCHOR"*

-THICH NHAT HANH

Submitted by Sherry S.

## **MEDITATION CORNER**

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# ATTRACTION VS PROMOTION - THE CONTROVERSY CLARIFIED

Bill W saw people dying every day because they never knew that there was a solution. The need for Alcoholics Anonymous to reach the public and professional population in educating and informing them became urgently apparent. And through this discovery, the Public Information (PI) Committee was formed by the General Service Organization in 1956.

15 years later, the Cooperation with the Professional Community (CPC) came into being as a distinct entity when the trustees' committee was formed as an outgrowth of the Public Information Committee. Not much later, in 1971, the Conference CPC Committee was established.

The Primary focus of the PI/CPC committee is on:

- Giving presentations about AA to schools and organizations.
- Providing information about AA through digital and print materials, including billboards, public service announcements, and up-and-coming social media ventures.
- Ensuring local media have accurate information about AA through Public Service Announcements, anonymity-protected interviews, and press kits ...

all while, preserving the integrity of AA by adhering to the Traditions – most specifically - Tradition 11 which states that *“Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio and films”*.

While clearly, there are many good things that come from Tradition 11, there are some people who take the idea of “attraction

rather than promotion” too far. For example, there are those who may believe that AA is not something that should ever be talked about or shared because they see it as promotion. This could mean that many people in need miss the opportunity to change and possibly save their lives.

## THE ORIGINAL INTENTION OF TRADITION 11

Originally Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) put Tradition 11 in place with the notion that it would be a very dangerous thing for any one fallible human being to represent the fellowship of AA in newspaper interviews, on the radio or tv, and in movies. The thinking was this: if that fallible human being were to struggle or experience a slip, it could then be seen as a failure of the AA program rather than that one individual's experience, thereby discounting AA as a viable pathway to recovery. The objective was not to hinge public perception of AA on any one individual, and to this very day, Tradition 11 serves an important purpose – to avoid, as the founders and forefathers intended, the dangers of having “token leaders or representatives” within the fellowship of these groups.

## THE INACCURATE PERCEPTION

Through natural human oral tradition, the conversations regarding Tradition 11 became somewhat controversial. Rather than understanding the idea of “attraction rather than promotion” means that a recovery solution cannot be promoted; it means that we must wait until a person “wants it bad enough” or is “ready” for recovery. The distorted perception is that we ought not promote recovery and instead just allow for people to naturally be attracted to it.

## THE CONTROVERSY CLARIFIED

What we know about addiction and recovery is that assertive outreach is effective, that exposure to recovery can be contagious and that being offered hope can be transformative. Recovery can and ought to be promoted, and engaging people yields positive results, saving lives around the world. What we also know is that when we fail to promote recovery, and just wait around for someone to want it bad enough or is ready, we miss opportunities, and we lose human beings. We must not confuse the original intention with the distorted perception of Tradition 11.

And, you can rest assured, the PI/CPC places concerted efforts into ensuring that any form of marketing/promoting the AA program neither divulges any statistics, promises, guarantees nor promotes any particular club, event, or member to include exposing anonymity in any way.

Sherry S.  
April 25, 2023

***“Public Information takes many forms—the simple sign outside a meeting place that says ‘A.A. meeting tonight;’ listing in local home directories; distribution of A.A. literature; and radio and television shows using sophisticated media techniques. Whatever the form, it comes down to ‘one drunk carrying the message to another drunk,’ whether through personal contact or through the use of third parties and the media.” – Bill W.***

***“There is a principle which is a bar against all information, which is proof against all arguments, and which cannot fail to keep a man in everlasting ignorance – that principle is contempt prior to investigation.” – Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book Page 568.***

For more information, to attend a monthly PI/CPC meeting, or to apply for service work with the PI/CPC Committee, please contact Tim L. at [tim.l@aa-seta.org](mailto:tim.l@aa-seta.org)  
OR VISIT <https://www.aadistrict81.org/>  
Click on PI/CPC tab on top of the page.

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## APRIL FINANCE AND BUDGET REPORT

Opening Checkbook Balance: \$15,606.94  
Group Contributions: \$302.15  
Other Contributions: \$90.00  
Less Expenses: \$1,104.12  
Net Income: \$(711.97)  
Ending Checkbook Balance: **\$14,894.97**  
Prudent Reserve Emergency Funds: (\$2,000.00)  
Restricted Budget Deficit: (\$10,779.32)  
Available Funds: **\$2,115.65**

For more information on the Finance & Budget Report, contact [debra.s@aa-seta.org](mailto:debra.s@aa-seta.org)