



DISTRICT 81

DECEMBER 2023



DCM: Keith M.
keith.m@aa-seta.org
Alt DCM: Danny G.
danny.g@aa-seta.org

Archives: Tiffany S.
tiffany.s@aa-seta.org
Alt: Wes S.
wes.s@aa-seta.org

Correctional Facilities: Janine
janine.b@aa-seta.org

PI/CPC: Tim L.
district-81-pi-cpc@aa-seta.org
Alt: Michelle C.
michellec.aa.2022@gmail.com

Grapevine: Jan D.
e.donovan@sbcglobal.net

Literature: Ashley S.
ashley.s@aa-seta.org

Finance & Budget:
Chair: DJ
deland.m@aa-seta.org
Treasurer: Debra
debra.s@aa-seta.org

Treatment Facilities: Brett H.
brett.h@aa-seta.org
Alt: Robert H.
robert.h@aa-seta.org

Newsletter: Gwen R.
gwen.r@aa-seta.org

Workshop: open

Webmaster: John A.
john.a@aa-seta.org
Alt: Bill

Accessibility Chair: Lynn S.
e.lynn.s@aa-seta.org

Step 12:

Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

Tradition 12:

Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personality.

Concept 11:

The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and whenever possible, substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government; that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

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



UPCOMING EVENTS & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

December 6: **District 81 meeting** 7pm at Kelley's in La Marque 4604 Gulf Fwy, La Marque, TX 77568

December 13: **Correctional Facilities Committee meeting** 6:30pm at the Bay Area Club, 2111 Webster St, League City, TX 77573

December 20: **Website Committee meeting** 6pm online; send email to john.a@aa-seta.org to be added to the Google Meet invite.

December 20: **Literature Committee meeting** 7:30pm on the back porch at the Bay Area Club, 2111 Webster St, League City, TX 77573

December 29: **Archives Committee meeting** 2pm at the Alvin Taylor Street Club, 204 S Taylor Street, Alvin, TX 77511

December 26: **Grapevine Committee meeting** 6pm at the Texas City Group, 518 6th Ave N, Texas City, TX 77590

December 27: **Finance & Budget meeting** 6:30pm at Jason's Deli in League City, 2755 Gulf Fwy S, League City, TX 77573

December 27: **Treatment Facilities Committee meeting** 6:30pm via Zoom: 868-5564-9879; passcode: 06-10-1935

December 28: **PI/CPC Committee meeting** 4:45pm at the Bay Area Club, 2111 Webster St, League City, TX 77573

January 12-14: **Tyler A.A. Anniversary** at the Tyler Rose Garden Center, 420 Rose Park Dr, Tyler, TX 75702

January 19-21 2024: **61st Annual SETA Convention** at the Moody Gardens Convention Center, 7 Hope Blvd, Galveston, TX 77554; see flyer!

July 4-7 2024: **The 64th ICYPAA Conference** in Austin, TX. More info to come; see flyer!



Tyler AA Anniversary

January 12-14, 2024



....."all sorts of remarkable things followed."

Join us in celebrating seventy-seven years of Alcoholics Anonymous in Tyler, TX
Tyler Rose Garden Center
420 Rose Park Dr., Tyler, TX
Sobriety "ROOTED" in Texas!

Pre-registration \$30.00
on-site \$35.00

Pre-register for a chance to win a set of speaker recordings!

HOST HOTEL INFORMATION

Hilton Garden Inn
220 E. Grande Blvd. Tyler, TX
(903) 509-1166

Ask for AA Convention rate

Follow us on Facebook:
facebook.com/TylerAnniversary

For more information contact:
Lisa G. (903) 221-4987
Crystal R. (903) 316-8832
Joe R. (903) 316-2016
aatyleranniversary@gmail.com

Pre-register Online at:
tyleranniversary.org



G&L Tapes Speaker Recordings Available
Tyler AA Central Service Booth
Al-Anon Booth
NETA Archives Display

RAFFLES-GREAT PRIZES!!!

Friday, January 12

5:00 pm: Registration
6:00 pm: Dinner
7:00 pm: Meet the Speakers
7:45 pm: **RAFFLE!**
8:00 pm: AA Speaker
Dawn F. - Dickenson, TX

Saturday, January 13

8:00 am: Coffee & Donuts
9:00 am: AA Speaker
Tracie J. - Irving, TX
10:30 am: Chairperson Workshop
Gary K. & Jackey B.
12:00 pm: Lunch Break
1:30 pm: AA speaker
Toni S. - Vandergrift, PA
3:00 pm: Sponsorship Workshop
Chris R. - Ingram, TX
Myers R. - Ingram, TX
4:30 pm: Al-Anon Speaker
Vannoy S. - Justin, TX

6:00 pm: Dinner
7:00 pm: Skit
"THE COMMITTEE INSIDE BOB'S HEAD"

7:30 pm: RAFFLE
7:45 pm: SOBRIETY COUNTDOWN
8:00 pm: AA Speaker
Chris R. - Ingram, TX

Sunday, January 14

8:00 am @ Downtown Suburban Group
1700 E. Front St., Tyler, TX
8:00 am: Potluck Breakfast hosted by Al-Anon
9:00 am: Al-Anon Speaker
Nancy J. - Santa Fe, TX
10:30 am: AA Speaker
Myers R. - Ingram, TX
11:00 am: Closing of 77th AA Anniversary

61ST ANNUAL

S.E.T.A. CONVENTION



WHAT SHAPE IS YOUR TRIANGLE?

JANUARY 19-21, 2024

FRIDAY

7:30P AA - SHANE S., CHATTANOOGA, TN
10:00P YPAA - KARA B., AUSTIN, TX

SATURDAY

9:00A GSO - JAMES H., NEW YORK, NY
10:45A ALATEEN - SPEAKER TBA
11:00A AL-ANON - NANCY J., SANTA FE, TX
1:30P AA - CFC CHUCK M., HOUSTON, TX
4:00P AA SPANISH SPEAKER - FERNANDO L., CHIAPAS, MX
7:30P AA - PETER M., BOCA RATON, FL

SUNDAY

11:00A AA - JUDITH R., BISMARCK, ND

PRE-REGISTRATION FEE IS \$20 FOR AA/AL-ANON -BY 11/30

HOTEL RATE - \$129 SINGLE/\$149 DOUBLE - BOOK BY 12/29

SETA CONVENTION, 2951 MARINA BAY DR., SUITE 130 BOX 273, LEAGUE CITY, TX., 77573

MOODY GARDENS CONVENTION CENTER
7 HOPE BLVD, GALVESTON, TX, 77554

WEBSITE - REGISTRATION - HOTEL



Full Name: _____
Badge Name: _____
Circle one: AA Al-Anon Alateen
Home Group: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
one: _____
mail: _____

Quantity/Type	Cost
AA Pre-registration	\$20
Al-Anon Pre-registration	\$20
Alateen/Child	Free
Coffee Badge	\$10
Box Lunch - Saturday	\$20
Banquet - Saturday Night	\$50
Scholarship Donation	\$20
Total Due	\$ _____

www.2024setaconvention.org

THE 64TH ICYPAA

International Conference of
Young People in AA
Austin, TX

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER



<https://www.icypaa.org/>

Want to help outreach ICYPAA at an event, conference or meeting? Email
volunteer@icyghost.org
for more info and ways to be of service!



WHERE AND HOW DID EBBY T. GET THE MESSAGE THAT HE TOOK TO BILL W.?

Most of us know about the meeting of Ebby T. and Bill W. However, I, like others, have always been curious about how Ebby T. got involved with the Oxford Groups. The following is from a book by Joe Mc Q (Of Joe & Charlie's Big Book Studies) that gives a history of what happened to a certain American businessman that had ability, good sense, and high character, but could not stay sober. His name was Rowland Hazard. The following is a chain of events to lead up to the meeting of Roland H., Ebby T., and then Bill W.

Roland Hazard was a New York investment banker suffering from alcoholism and sought help from the well-known psychologist Dr. Carl Jung. (See pages 26 and 27 of AA Big Book). Dr. Jung told Rowland there might be hope he could stay sober – if he could have a personality change through a spiritual experience.

Rowland returned to New York and found an Oxford Group, where he sought a spiritual experience. The Oxford Groups were informal fellowships of people from any and all religions who were not satisfied with their spiritual progress. Anyone could join and work through the tenets of the Group to get some spiritual growth and change their lives. The groups weren't particularly focused on the problem of alcoholism.

Frank Buchman, a Lutheran minister, was the originator of the Oxford Groups. After having an argument with board members of a boy's school in Philadelphia, Frank got mad, resigned, and left the USA to travel in Europe. In England in 1908, he went to a church meeting one night and heard a woman, Jessie Penn–Lewis, preach on resentments and forgiveness. And he was greatly moved by what he had heard.

Frank, having resentment against the six board members of the Philadelphia boy's school, went back to his room that night and wrote the board members a letter asking for their forgiveness. He later said that this action produced a sudden change in his life, an instant change.

Frank never heard back from the board members, but he began to reflect on how his life was tremendously improved. He asked himself, how did that happen? What did I do to bring that about? If I can understand what I did, I can renew myself in any way I want to. Better than that, I can show someone else how to do it.

As he sought to understand his experience, Frank listed the things he had done: (1) he had surrendered, (2) he had admitted his sins, (3) he had shared and confessed, (4) he had made restitution, and (5) he had asked for God's guidance.



Frank Buchman was immediately successful. People who followed the procedure were changed. The Oxford Groups grew and spread. Realizing that these five basic principles were the foundation of Christianity (and of other religions worldwide), Frank called his movement “First-Century Christian Fellowship”.

So, when Rowland Hazard returned to New York after consulting Dr. Jung in Switzerland, he joined the Oxford Groups and started practicing these principles. Doing so produced in him the change and the spiritual experience he sought- and as a result he stayed sober until he died.

As Rowland found sobriety, he heard that an old friend, Ebby Thatcher, was about to be committed to a mental institution for his alcoholism. Rowland and a couple of his Oxford Group members rescued Ebby from court and passed on the basic principles to Ebby in the next couple of weeks. Rowland also took Ebby to Reverend Sam Shoemaker’s Calvary Mission in New York City, where they worked with people suffering from alcoholism. This became a very important part of Ebby’s recovery.

Most of us pretty much know what happened from here. Ebby took the message to Bill, Bill took the message to Dr. Bob, and Bill W. and Dr. Bob took the message to Bill D., who became AA member no 3.

I found the above information very interesting because I had heard of the Oxford Groups but had never heard about Frank Buchman and how the Oxford Groups were founded. I hope you find this as interesting as I have.

Yours in service,

Tom B.
District 81 Archives Committee



FAITH OVER FEAR

As for many, the paralyzing fear that drove me to enter AA, did not suddenly become less of a problem for me. I was extremely relieved to be granted the removal of the insistent need to drink, yet the abstinence left me vulnerable to the emotional fears that continued to haunt me. My sponsor one day said that at about 20 years sober, he sat up from bed in the morning and thought, "It's going to get me today.". He then thought, "If it hasn't gotten me by now, it probably never will." I began to try to figure out what "It" was. I concluded that "It" was that I felt unworthy of my God's love and protection. From that day forward, I accepted that my God loved me unconditionally, and would provide for me as for all his children. From that thought on, through God's grace, my paralyzing fears weakened at a rapid pace. The terror has been reduced to only legitimate concerns, which are few.

Bob W.

SETA 2012

With the SETA Conference coming up at Moody Gardens in January, I am reminded of my first time attending there in January of 2012. I've only missed one since then (not counting the one that diidnt' happenn due to COVID).

Not quite seven months sober, it was not yet the fun event it would become for me in the years after. I still had that "sober in the headlights" feeling. Several people from my home group attended, including my sponsor. A few of us decided to caravan to a restaurant for dinner and I hitched a ride with one of the ladies. Only one window rolled down in her small car (passenger side), she drove like a maniac and smoked like a chimney. By the time we arrived I was seriously contemplating a margarita. Fortunately my sponsor was already there and saving me a seat. We are not a glum lot and let me tell you that the group I was with that night are the proof. They helped me laugh my way through. I still have the same sponsor but most of the folks there that night have moved on in one way or another.

The lady I hitched a ride with has been in and out of the program many times since then. She was one of the first people I met when I came into the program and the first phone number I called. I am always delighted when I see her at a meeting or local event. We have shared many laughs and helped each other out over the years. I wonder if she knows that she still helps me to stay sober.

Janet R.
Alvin Group





Heard at Meetings: I started out as a social drinker. Then I had my second drink.

James J., Hamilton, Ontario, May 2008

Some **blackouts** are better left forgotten ...

November 1946

God delivered Daniel from the lion's den. Nowhere is it written that Dan went back for his hat.

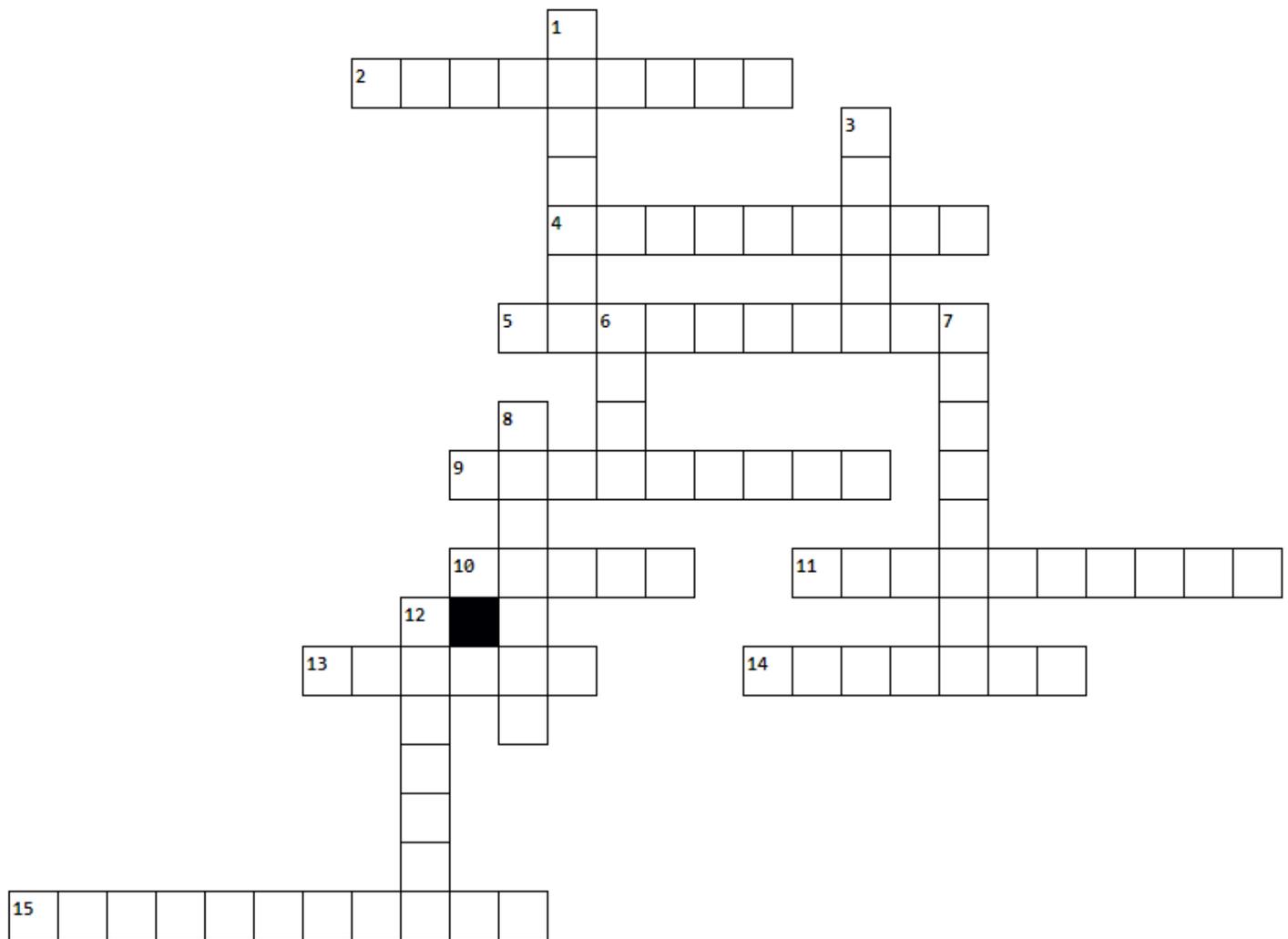
Ed S., Brooklyn, New York, August 1988

Funnies submitted by Robert H.

NOVEMBER F&B REPORT

D81 Budget Summary	
Opening Checkbook Balance	\$ 13,409.17
Group Contributions	\$ 594.45
Other Contributions	
Less Expenses	\$ 1,014.75
Net Income	\$ (420.30)
Ending Checkbook Balance	\$ 12,988.87
Prudent Reserve Emergency Funds	\$ (2,000.00)
Unused Budget (Restricted Deficit)	\$ (4,969.54)
Available Funds	\$ 6,019.33

A.A. BASICS



Across

2. Yielding control.
4. A moment of realization or increased awareness.
5. A community of like-minded individuals.
9. Acceptance and respect for different beliefs or practices.
10. A state of tranquility and harmony.
11. Embracing things as they are, without judgment.
13. The process of progress.
14. A partner in recovery.
15. A readiness to do something or cooperate.

Down

1. What we carry.
3. Belief, but better.
6. Deep affection and care.
7. Advancement towards a goal.
8. i.e., truthfulness.
12. The ability to confront fear, pain, or adversity.