

SOBRIETY VARIETY PAGES

Hill Country Intergroup

“Communist AA Groups”

Volume 7, Issue 3

March 2007

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Step Three

Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.

The Third Tradition is a sweeping statement indeed; it takes in a lot of territory. Some people think it too idealistic to be practical. It tells every alcoholic in the world that he may become, and remain, a member of Alcoholics Anonymous *so long as he says so*. In short, Alcoholics Anonymous has no membership rule.

Why is this so? Our answer is simple and practical. Even in self-protection, we do not wish to erect the slightest barrier between ourselves and the fellow alcoholic who still suffers. We know that society has been demanding that he conform to its laws and conventions. But the essence of his alcoholic malady is the fact that he has been unable or unwilling to conform either to the laws of man or God. If he is anything, the sick alcoholic is a rebellious nonconformist. How well we understand that; every member of Alcoholics Anonymous was once a rebel himself. Hence we cannot offer to meet him at any halfway mark. We must enter the dark cave where he is and show him that we understand. We realize that he is altogether too weak and confused to jump hurdles. If we raise obstacles, he might stay away and perish. He might be de-

nied his priceless opportunity.

So when he asks, “Are there any conditions?” we joyfully reply, “No, not a one.” When skeptically he comes back saying, “But certainly there must be things that I have to do and believe,” we quickly answer, “In Alcoholics Anony-

upon him. For Alcoholics Anonymous is saying, “We have something priceless to give, if only you will receive.” That is all. But to our new friend, it is everything. Without more ado, he becomes one of us.

Our membership Tradition



mous there are no *musts*.” Cynically, perhaps, he then inquires, “What is this all going to cost me?” We are able to laugh and say, “Nothing at all, there are no fees and dues.” Thus, in a brief hour, is our friend disarmed of his suspicion and rebellion. His eyes begin to open on a new world of friendship and understanding. Bankrupt idealist that he has been, his ideal is no longer a dream. After years of lonely search it now stands revealed. The reality of Alcoholics Anonymous bursts

does contain, however, one vitally important qualification. That qualification relates to the use of our name, Alcoholics Anonymous. We believe that any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an AA group provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation. Here our purpose is clear and unequivocal. For obvious reasons we wish the name Alcoholics Anonymous to be used only in connection with straight AA activities. One can think of no AA

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5th Annual Old Timers Banquet

Honoring All AA
Old Timers

(25 yrs. Or More)

In the Greater Austin Area

Saturday May 5th, 2007

American Legion

Knebel Post 83

4401 E. St. Elmo Rd.

Austin, TX 78744

5:30 PM

Doors Open

6:30 PM

Buffet Dinner

8:00 PM

Sobriety Countdown & Open Mike

9:00 PM

Speaker: Doug D. – Houston

10:00 PM

Door Prizes and Free Raffle

Admission -

\$15.00 per person

Old Timers

(25 yrs or more)

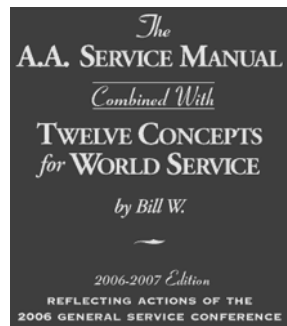
FREE!

(Sign in at the Door)

Tickets available at the
HCIA office.

Concept Three

To insure effective leadership,
we should endow each
element of AA—the
Conference, the General
Service Board and its service
corporations, staffs,
committees, and executives—
with a traditional
“Right of Decision.”





Tradition Three—continued from page one

“In
Alcoholics
Anonymous
there
are no
musts.”

member who would like, for example, to see the formation of “dry” AA groups, “wet” AA groups, Republican AA groups, communist AA groups. Few, if any, would wish our groups to be designated by religious denominations. We cannot lend the AA name, even indirectly, to other activities, however worthy. If we do so we shall become hopelessly compromised and divided. We think that AA should offer its experience

to the whole world for whatever use can be made of it. But not its name. Nothing could be more certain.

Let us of AA therefore resolve that we shall always be inclusive and never exclusive, offering all we have to all, save our title. May all barriers be thus leveled, may our unity thus be preserved. And may God grant us a long life—and a useful one!

“The Language of the Heart”

Tradition Three

Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought AA membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an AA group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation.

February Volunteers

Thank You!

Office	Dennis “Pete” P.	Hotline				
Alana	Kevin B.	Larry	BOSCO	Meredith H.	Karen M.	Dave H.
Gene C.	Bill H.	Billy C.	Tammy D.	Jenny W.	Eileen B.	Kevin M.
Marty C.	Robert G.	Paul B.	Dennis/ Deanie	Pam R.	John P.	Ian M.
Karin D.	Patty G.	Roland P.	Patrick C.	Joel J.	Tom S.	Leslie Ann D.
Rachel	Gordon D.	Julie A.	Scotty H.	Jeff P.	Lee A.	Jennifer E.
Ricardo	Lowell	Nancy N.	Barb H.	Gordon K.	Beth B.	
Eileen B	Jim H.	Cheryl F.	Cheryl P.	Joe McF.	Rob C.	
Pam R.	Roland P.	Jerry T.		NA24	Marty C.	
Billy C.	Adel					
Katie	Marla K.					

February Donations from Groups

Thank You!

1825	25	Emmaus (Lakeway)	120	Hilltoppers	75	Wimberley	500
Allandale	40	Firemakers	250	Last Call	100		
Bouldin	300	Fresh Start	25	Living Faith	80		
Bridge to Shore	450	Friday Night (Bastrop)	200	Lost Pines	40		
Children of Chaos	40	Friday Rush Hour	20	Monday Rush Hour	50		
Courage to Change	28	Gattis School	16	North Austin 24	50		
Desire to Stop	241	Grover Ave. Big Book	40	Power Hour	60	Grand Total	
Dry Creek	65	Keep First Things First	90	Sunday AM Sidewalk	125	\$3829	
East Austin	60	Into Action (Lockhart)	30	Westlake	709		

HILL COUNTRY
INTERGROUP

*If you want to drink,
that's your business.
If you want to stop
And can't
that's our business.*



1339 Lamar Square Dr. #204
Austin, Texas 78704

Phone: 512-444-0071
Fax: 512-448-7586
E-mail: austinaa@austin.rr.com

WWW.AUSTINAA.ORG

Attention AA Members ! Join the Hill Country Intergroup's BIRTHDAY CLUB !

Bring in a suggested donation of
\$1 *or more* per year of sobriety to:

HCI 1339 Lamar Sq. Dr. #204 Austin, TX 78704

HCI will acknowledge you as a member of our
BIRTHDAY CLUB by sending you an ID Card and
by listing your name (1st name, last initial)

In this publication.

HCIA Birthday Club – New Members

February, 2007

Barbara L. , Suburban Group –7 Years

Intergroup Needs Volunteers-Now!

We have fallen short of our goal to have the office staffed on a regular basis by friendly volunteers. Twenty nine shifts were left uncovered in February. Imagine the times you have come to the office and no one was at the front desk! You are needed.

Come by and sign up to work the phone desk at the Intergroup Office.

Shifts are Monday thru Friday,
10AM-1PM
1PM-4PM
4PM-6PM

Call 444-0071

Or come by and sign up!

Twelve step calls,
Literature sales,
Friendly conversation,
Coffee,
Come by and sign up!

An early telephone design.

