

SOBRIETY VARIETY PAGES

Hill Country Intergroup

Problems other than Alcohol

Volume 8, Issue 5

May 2008

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Step Five

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

Now there are certain things that A.A. cannot do for anybody, regardless of what our several desires or sympathies may be.

Our first duty, as a society, is to insure our own survival. Therefore, we have to avoid distractions and multipurpose activity. An A.A. group, as such, cannot take on *all* the personal problems of its members, let alone the problems of the whole world.

Sobriety — freedom from alcohol — through the teaching and practice of the Twelve Steps is the sole purpose of an A.A. group. Groups have repeatedly tried other activities, and they have always failed. It has also been learned that *there is no possible way to make nonalcoholics into A.A. members*. We have to confine our membership to alcoholics, and we have to confine our A.A. groups to a single purpose. If we don't stick to these principles, we shall almost surely collapse. And if we collapse, we cannot help anyone.

Therefore, I see no way of making nonalcoholic addicts into A.A. members. Experience says loudly that we can admit no exceptions, even though drug users and alcoholics happen to be first cousins of a sort. If we persist in

trying this, I'm afraid it will be hard on the drug user himself, as well as on A.A. We must accept the fact that no nonalcoholic, whatever his affliction, can be converted into an alcoholic A.A. member.

I'm very sure that these experiences of yesterday can be the basis of resolving today's confusion about the narcotics problem. This problem is new, but the A.A. experience and Traditions which can solve it are already old and time-tested.

I think we might sum it up like this:

We cannot give A.A. membership to nonalcoholic narcotics addicts. But, like anyone else, they should be able to attend certain open A.A. meetings, provided, of course, that the groups themselves are willing.

A.A. members who are so inclined should be encouraged to band together in groups to deal with sedative and drug problems. But they ought to refrain from calling themselves A.A. groups.

There seems to be no reason why several A.A.'s cannot join, if they wish, with a group of straight addicts to solve the alcohol and the drug problem together. But, obviously, such a dual purpose



group should not insist that it be called an A.A. group, nor should it use the A.A. name in its title. Neither should its straight-addict contingent be led to believe that they have become A.A. members by reason of such an association.

Certainly, there is every good reason for interested A.A.'s to join with outside groups

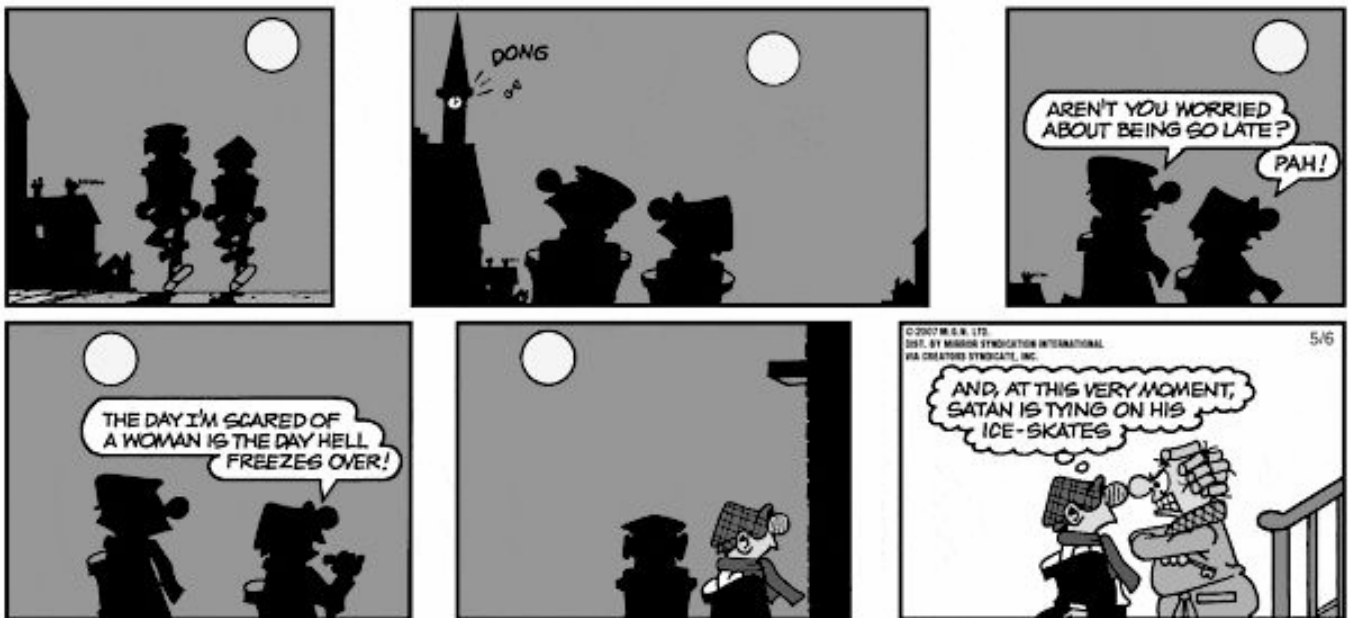
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Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism.

- The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions.
- A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes.
 - Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

ANDY CAPP

by Smythe

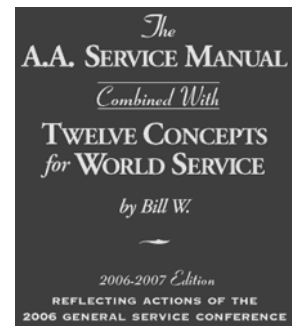


Concept Five

“Minority Opinion”

“Strange Concept”

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



Problems other than Alcohol

—continued from page one

working on the narcotics problem, provided the Traditions of anonymity and of no endorsements are respected.

In A.A., the group has strict limitations, but the individual has scarcely any. Remembering to observe the Traditions of anonymity and non-

endorsement, he can carry A.A.'s message into every troubled area of this very troubled world.

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"A.A. members who are so inclined should be encouraged to band together in groups to deal with sedative and drug problems. But they ought to refrain from calling themselves A.A. groups."



Tradition Five

Each
Alcoholics
Anonymous
group ought to
be a spiritual
entity having
but one
primary
purpose—that of
carrying its
message to the
alcoholic who
still suffers.

April Volunteers

Thank You!

Office:

Billy C. G. Courtney W.
Marty C. Tom B. John G.
James B. Siiri W. Guy Y.
Gordon Marla K. Gisela
D. John P.
Sandy R. Kevin
Mary L. Kris F.
Dennis Rachel Z.
"Pete" P. Richard K.
Marilyn Dan W.
Shelton

Hotline:

Carlos A. Jerry T. Paul B. John P.
Cliff G. Darrin A. NA24 Joe McF.
Siiri W. Anne R. Larry K. Carol M.
Amy M. Gary B. Tom S. Gary C.
Tommy B. Meredith Katherine Mike/
Dave E. H. H. Linda M.
Kathy L. Karen K. Jim B. Ryan P.
Jamie D. Rachel Z. Gordon K. Jim H.
John G. Gunnar S. Dennis Pete H.
Erick H. Jeff P. "Pete" P.
Harlan O. Carrie L.

April Donations from Groups

Thank You!

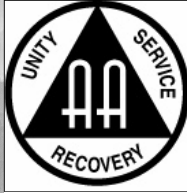
Buda Big Book-	\$30	Saturday AM Serenity -	\$76	Northland -	\$602
Driftwood -	\$35	Northland -	\$525	Kempner AA -	\$15
Lake Travis Serenity	\$250	Elgin -	\$10	Friday Night (Austin)	\$50
Started in Service	\$16	Turning Point -	\$30	Central -	\$65
Allandale -	\$230	Into Action (Lockhart)	\$60	Austin City Wide-	\$150
Primary Purpose Cedar Park	\$68	North Austin 24. -	\$50		
Liars Club North -	\$127	Bridge to Shore -	\$660		
A Way Out -	\$150	Western Trails -	\$100		
1313 -	\$349	Luling -	\$20		
Buchanan Dam Brown Bag	\$15	Primary Purpose -	\$111	Total	\$3781

**Common
Problem**

**Common
Solution**

HILL COUNTRY
INTERGROUP

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



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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 April, 2007

Brent B. – East Austin – 20 years

Maggie B. – Being Convinced – 32 years

Old Timer's Banquet

Honoring All AA Old Timers (25 years or
more) In the Greater Austin Area

Saturday, May 10th

5:30 pm –Doors Open

6:30 pm –Buffet Dinner

8:00 pm –Sobriety Countdown & open mike

9:00 pm –Speaker:

Lloyd J. –Carrollton, TX

10:00 pm –Raffle & Door Prizes

Admission \$20 per person

Old Timers (25 yrs or more) **FREE!**

(Sign in at the door)

At the

American Legion

Knebel Post 83

4401 E. St. Elmo Road Austin, TX 78744

Sponsored by

**Hill Country
Intergroup**

**1825 Fortview
Road Suite #104**

**Austin, TX
78704**

