

# SOBRIETY VARIETY PAGES

## Hill Country Intergroup

When a society composed entirely of alcoholics says it's going to pay its bills, that's really news.

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### Inside this issue:

Brady AA's 61st Anniversary	2
Tradition Seven	2
Concept Seven	3
June Volunteers	3
June Donations	3
Birthday Club	4
Statement of Purpose	4

### Step Seven

*Humbly  
asked him to  
remove our  
shortcom-  
ings.*

SELF-SUPPORTING alcoholics? Who ever heard of such a thing? Yet we find that's what we have to be. This principle is telling evidence of the profound change that A.A. has wrought in all of us. Everybody knows that active alcoholics scream that they have no troubles money can't cure. Always, we've had our hands out. Time out of mind we've been dependent upon somebody, usually money-wise. When a society composed entirely of alcoholics says it's going to pay its bills, that's really news.

Probably no A.A. Tradition had the labor pains this one did. In early times, we were all broke. When you add to this the habitual supposition that people ought to give money to alcoholics trying to stay sober, it can be understood why we thought we deserved a pile of folding money. What great things A.A. would be able to do with it! But oddly enough, people who had money thought otherwise. They figured that it was high time we now-sober-paid our own way. So our Fellowship stayed poor because it had

to.

There was another reason for our collective poverty. It was soon apparent that while alcoholics would spend lavishly on Twelfth Step cases, they had a terrific aversion



to dropping money into a meeting-place hat for group purposes. We were astounded to find that we were as tight as the bark on a tree. So A.A., the movement, started and stayed broke, while its individual members waxed prosperous.

Alcoholics are certainly all-or-nothing people. Our reactions to money prove this. As A.A. emerged from its infancy into adolescence, we swung from the idea that we needed vast sums of money to the notion that A.A. shouldn't have any. On every lip were the words "You can't mix A.A. and money. We

shall have to separate the spiritual from the material." We took this violent new tack because here and there members had tied to make money out of their A.A. connections, and we feared

we'd be exploited. Now and then, grateful benefactors had endowed clubhouses, and as a result there was sometimes outside interference in our affairs. We had been presented with a hospital, and almost immediately the donor's son became its principal patient and would-be manager. One A.A. group was given five thousand dollars to do with what it would. The hassle over that chunk of money played havoc for years. Frightened by these complications, some groups refused to have a cent in their treasuries.

Continued on Page 3

## BRADY AA's 61st ANNIVERSARY

AUGUST 8th & 9th

BRENT B. from AUSTIN

PATI S. from FT WORTH

DAWN F. from CARROLLTON

HOSPITALITY ROOM, ARCHIVES ROOM, HOMEMADE ICE-CREAM, REGISTRATION IS FREE

For more information call:

Jackie K 325-785-4204

Heidie M 325-243-5201

Group Phone 325-597-3725



### *Tradition Seven*

The A.A. groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics

Anonymous is highly dangerous, whether by groups, clubs, hospitals, or other outside agencies; that acceptance of large gifts from any source, or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever, is unwise. Then too, we view with much concern those A.A. treasuries

which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated A.A. purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

***So why shouldn't we share our way of life with everyone?***

—continued from page one

Despite these misgivings, we had to recognize the fact that A.A. had to function. Meeting places cost something. To save whole areas from turmoil, small offices had to be set up, telephones installed, and a few full-time secretaries hired. Over many protests, these things were accomplished. We saw that if they weren't, the man coming in the door couldn't get a break. These simple services would require small sums of money which we could and would pay ourselves. At last the pendulum stopped swinging and pointed straight at Tra-

dition Seven as it reads today.

*This article reprinted with permission from "Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions" - GSC approved literature.*

“There is a place in A.A. where spirituality and money will mix, and that is in the hat!”



## *Concept Seven*

The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.

## June Volunteers

**Office:**

Billy C., Marilyn C., Norma A., Eileen B., Marty C., Mary L., Brad R., Kevin B., Lesly J. Lisa, Marla K., Jim H., Dennis “Pete” P., Siiri W., John P., Charlotte J., Dudley F., Jim H., Paul B., Gordon D., Deb J., Nicole C., Dan W., Vashti J., Rachel Z., Tom B.

**Hotline:**

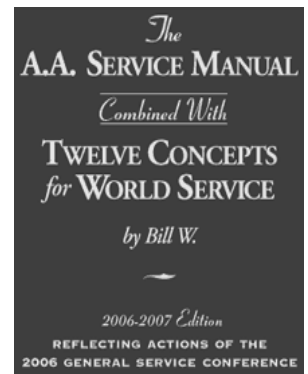
Pam R., Todd S., Katherine H., Jeremy B., Russell H., Beth B., Maia M., Robert C., Chris S., Karen M., Rick L., Roland P., Nicole C., Paul J., Cheryl F., Dudley F., John P., Darlene V., Scotty H., Laney H., Patrick C., Shabd K., Gordon K., Siiri W., Rob C., Paul B., NA24, Jennifer E., James B., Val R., John G., Jesse J., Dennis “Pete” P., Donita T., Ian M., Gayle B., Deborah K., Stewart G., Bob L.

## *Thank You!*

## June Donations from Groups

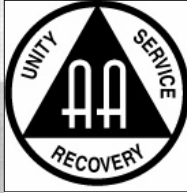
## *Thank You!*

So What, Now What? - \$86	164 Page Winners - \$100	Keep 1 <sup>st</sup> Things 1 <sup>st</sup> - \$174
Last House on the Block - \$110	Carry This Message - \$500	Lake Travis Serenity - \$250
Started in Service - \$15	Hope - \$703	Round Rock Big Book - \$20
Allandale - \$245	North Austin 24 - \$100	Bridge to Shore - \$585
East Austin - \$90	Northland - \$499	Sisters in Sobriety (Marble Falls) - \$25
Kingsland Newcomers - \$150	Bouldin - \$150	Austin City-Wide Group - \$150
New Beginnings - \$84	Dry Creek - \$40	Phelan Rd. Group - \$10
Bluebonnet - \$237	Stoney Point - \$25	South Austin Big Book - \$81
Buchanan Brown Bag - \$25	Liars Club South - \$41	
Women's Recovery - \$351	Into Action (Lockhart) - \$30	
Kyle - \$10	Back to Basics (M. Falls) - \$50	<b>Total</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>\$4,936</b></span>



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](mailto:austinaa@austin.rr.com)

[WWW.AUSTINAA.ORG](http://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, 1825 Fortview Rd. #104, 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 (1<sup>st</sup> name, last initial)

In this publication.

HCIA Birthday Club – New Members     June, 2008

Barbara L. - Suburban Group – 8 years

Ronnie W. - Hope Group – 1 year

Rebecca W. - Hope Group – 1 year

John L. - McKinney, TX – 20 years

Richard W. - Westlake – 22 years

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 en-  
gage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes.

Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.



[AAGRAPEVINE.ORG](http://AAGRAPEVINE.ORG)  
*The International Journal  
of Alcoholics Anonymous*



Alcoholics  
Anonymous

