



# SOBRIETY VARIETY PAGES

## "Without unity, the heart of AA would cease to beat."

Volume 9, Issue 01

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another to do anything; nobody can be punished or expelled. Our Twelve Steps to recovery are suggestions; the Twelve Traditions which guarantee A.A.'s unity contain not a single "Don't." They repeatedly say "We ought..." but never "You must!"

To many minds all this liberty for the individual spells sheer anarchy. Every newcomer, every friend who looks at A.A. for the first time is greatly puzzled. They see liberty verging on license, yet they recognize at once that A.A. has an irresistible strength of purpose and action. "How," they ask, "can such a crowd of anarchists function at all? How can they possible place their common welfare first? What in Heaven's name holds them together?"

Those who look closely soon have the key to this strange paradox. The A.A. member has to conform

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The unity of Alcoholics Anonymous is the most cherished quality our Society has. Our lives, the lives of all to come, depend squarely upon it. We stay whole, or A.A. dies. Without unity, the heart of A.A. would cease to beat; our world arteries would no longer carry the life-giving grace of God; His gift to us would be spent aimlessly. Back again in their caves, alcoholics would reproach us and say, "What a great thing A.A. might have been!"

"Does this mean," some will anxiously ask, "that in A.A. the individual doesn't count for much? Is he to be dominated by his group and swallowed up in it?"

We may certainly answer this question with a loud "No!" We believe there isn't a fellowship on earth which lavishes more devoted care upon its individual members; surely there is none which more jealously guards the individual's right to think, talk, and act as he wishes. No A.A. can compel

### Step One

*We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable.*

## New Group in Pflugerville!

Recovery Group  
14400 Immanuel Rd.  
Pflugerville, Tx 78660

Starting January 6th, 2009, the Recovery Group will be meeting every Tuesday @ 7pm at the Bible Baptist Church in Pflugerville.

The meeting is designated an Open Discussion.

## New Saturday Beginners Meeting!

The Five Thirty  
617 Clifford Drive  
Austin, Tx 78745

The Five Thirty group at 617 Foundation has added a Saturday 5:30pm Beginners meeting.

## New Sunday Women's Meeting!

Hope Group  
120 Commercial Parkway  
Cedar Park, Tx 78613

Check out the Hope group's new Women's meeting every Sunday at 3pm. The meeting is an open discussion, Step and Tradition, and features child care.

## Three New Meetings!

New Braunfels 24hr Club  
1142 Eikel Street  
New Braunfels, Tx 78130

The New Braunfels 24hr Club has added three new meetings:

- 1) Sunday 11:00am OD, Non-smoking;
- 2) Tuesday 6:45pm CD, Men's meeting;
- 3) Saturday 9:30pm OD, Campfire meeting.



## Tradition One

*Each member of  
Alcoholics  
Anonymous is but a  
small part of a great*

*whole. AA must  
continue to live or  
most of us will surely  
die. Hence our*

*common welfare comes  
first. But individual  
welfare follows close  
afterward.*

**“Without Unity, the heart of AA would cease to beat. “**

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**(used by permission from AAWS)**

to the principles of recovery. His life actually depends upon obedience to spiritual principles. If he deviates too far, the penalty is sure and swift; he sickens and dies. At first he goes along because he must, but later he discovers a way of life he really wants to live. Moreover, he finds he cannot keep this priceless gift unless he gives it away. Neither he nor anybody else can survive unless he carries the A.A. message. The moment this Twelfth Step

work forms a group, another discovery is made - that most individuals cannot recover unless there is a group. Realization dawns that he is but a small part of a great whole; that no personal sacrifice is too great for preservation of the Fellowship. He learns that the clamor of desires and ambitions within him must be silenced whenever these could damage the group. It becomes plain that the group must survive or the individual will not.



## Concept One

Final  
responsibility  
and ultimate  
authority for

AA

world services  
should always  
reside in the  
collective  
conscience  
of our whole  
Fellowship.

## December Volunteers

*Thank You!*

**Office:**

Jeff K., Tildon, Marilyn C., Dennis “Pete” P., Allison, Cullen L., Billy C., Marty C., Jim H., Lizz R., Brennen, Nancy K., Kevin B., Ames B., Glenn S., Dace, Eileen B., Deb J., Marla K., Desiree

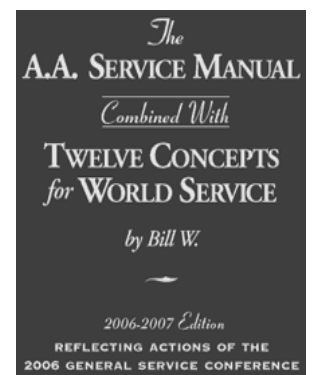
**Hotline:**

Glenn S., Jesse, Amy M., Patty T., Pam R., Karen M., Kevin M., Trina F., Jerry T., Jennifer M. Gordon K., Ann W., Paul B., Chris S., Drew W., Cliff G., Karin S., Marty C., Nancy K., Sharon T., Tammy D., John G., Roland P., Eileen B., Rachel Z., Erick A., Dennis/Deanie, Pam B., Chris F., John P., Katherine H., Ruben G., Eric McD., Dennis “Pete” P., Linda V., Mary T., Mark J.

## December Donations from Groups

*Thank You!*

Kyle - \$10	Northland -\$ - \$698	Elgin - \$10
Bridge to Shore - \$648	Friday Night (Austin) - \$77	Austin City Wide Group - \$150
Allandale - \$194	There is a Solution - \$61	Progress not Perfection - \$50
Elgin - \$10	Carry This Message - \$103	AA on the Creek - \$11
Into Action (Lockhart) -\$30	South Austin Big Book - \$103	There's a Way Out - \$2
Living Faith - \$80	Liars Club North - \$400	Last Call - \$100
Sunshine - \$20	Nada Glum Lot - \$117	1313 - \$240
Hope - \$344	Turn Around Taylor - \$25	Lake Travis Serenity - \$250
Dry Creek - \$100	Central - \$35	Llano - \$190
North Austin 24 - \$50	Brown Bag (Buchanan Dam) - \$25	
Desire to Stop - \$185		
		<b>Total \$ 4318</b>



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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Austin, Texas 78704

Phone: 512-444-0071  
Fax: 512-448-7586  
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    December, 2008

Charlie W.

North Austin 24

28years

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.



**AA Grapevine**  
Our Meeting in Print

