

# SOBRIETY VARIETY PAGES

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

Volume 10  
Issue 1

January 2010

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## Step One

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



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

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 possibly 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

**Continued on Page 3**

# Hill Country Intergroup

is sponsoring a workshop on

## Emotional

## Sobriety



**Saturday**  
**January 23, 2010**  
9:30 to 11:30 am  
at the  
**Phelan Road Group**  
257 Phelan Road  
Bastrop, Tx 78602

Workshop will be hosted by the  
**Simply AA Group – Leander**  
Workshop Panel:  
Jamie W., Vickie G, & Roger L.

Refreshments will be furnished  
by  
A Way Out Group – Bastrop  
Elgin Group – Elgin  
Lost Pines Group – Bastrop  
&  
On The Creek Group -- Smithville



**Hill Country Intergroup**  
Serving Austin and the Texas Hill Country

[www.austinaa.org](http://www.austinaa.org)

512-444-0071

### *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. “**

**continued from page one**

**(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:**

Billy C., Marty C., Buster S., Brady, Kimberley H., Grace T., John B., Keli D., Brad R., Jason M., Daniel, Lisa L., Jim H., Marla K., Russell B., Mike U., Amy K., Matt S., Rachel Z., Chris R., James B., Gordon D., Nancy K., Amy & Randa, Jamie D.

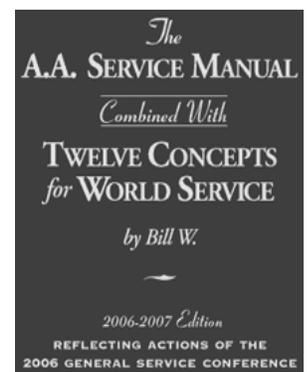
**Hotline:**

Maia M., Marty C., Frank B., Leslie Ann D., Nancy K., Jennifer E., Drew W., Billy C., Katherine H., Nicole C., Jerry T., Donita T., Gordon K., Dave E., Shabd K., Karen M., Chris R., Mary T., Russell B., Scott C., Glenn S., Erick H., Paul B., Ryan P., Tommy V., John G., Amy M., Barry F., Dennis “Pete” P., Siiri W., Mary Jo B., Jim H., Beth B., Rachel Z., Deb J.

**December Donations from Groups**

**Thank You!**

Unity - \$106	Bouldin - \$230	1313 - \$500
Carry This Message - \$150	Simply AA - \$10	Four Points - \$100
Allandale - \$229	Promises - \$100	Tin Roof - \$35
Sunset Canyon - \$40	Lambda/Live & Let Live - \$305	South Austin Big Book - \$69
So What, Now What - \$136	Phelan Road - \$10	North Austin 24 - \$50
Spiritual Awakenings - \$121	North Austin 24 - \$50	Friday Nite Alive - \$100
Bridge to Shore - \$560	Higher Power Hour - \$127	Suburban - \$10
Started in Service - \$14	1825 - \$75	SOS Group - \$60
Suburban - \$10	164 Page Winners - \$75	Our Gang - \$60
Hope (Cedar Park) - \$750	Nada Glum Lot - \$141	Total \$ 4713
Northland - \$490		



HILL COUNTRY  
INTERGROUP

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



1825 Fortview Rd. #104  
Austin, Texas 78704

Phone: 512-444-0071  
Fax: 512-448-7586  
E-mail: 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, 2009

NO NEW MEMBERS!!!

**YOUR NAME  
COULD GO HERE!!!**

ANDY CAPP



by Smythe

