

SOBRIETY VARIETY PAGES

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Inside this issue:

Comprehend The Word Serenity and We Will Know Peace.	1
February History	1
January Volunteers	2
HCI Birth Day Club	2
January Donations	2
	3
AA Humor Section	3
Capital Of Texas Conference	4
HCIA Deaf Access Committee: A letter from the Chairperson.	5
HCI Information	6
Upcoming Events	6

Our Mission

**WE WORK
24 HOURS A
DAY
FOR YOU!**

**Information 12th
Step Referrals
Service
Opportunities**

**www.austinaa.org
(512) 444-0071**

Comprehend The Word Serenity and We Will Know Peace

The book promises us that we will comprehend the word serenity and we will know peace. The word serenity is the quality or state of being serene which is suggestive of utter calm and unruffled rest. When I was in the crux of my disease I thought that the world and its people revolved around me, and I did not care what happened to it or them. There is no serenity or peace when your heart has gone cold and you do not believe in anything. When I came to AA I did not believe that serenity and peace were achievable for me, because of the things that I had done in my past. Today I do not feel serene all the time as life is full of chaos and uncertainty. I have found through the program that I do not have to let the things that go on around me affect me unless I want them to. The book does not promise us that we will have serenity, but that it exists. If I practice the principles that I have learned I can turn any situation into a good experience. I have to accept today that what others do or say is none of my business. The moment that I learned that I understood what the word serenity meant to me. The book says we will know peace, and today that means that I know who I am. I have cleaned away the wreckage of my past to find those character defects that were blocking me from the spirit. That spirit today is my peace, and that allows me to be of maximum service to God and my fellow man. There are promises all through the Big Book to show us that if we are diligent in practicing the steps and applying those principles that we will grow spiritually. The spirit lives within all of us and AA helps us tap into that so that we can comprehend serenity and know peace.

Robert C.

February History (JUNAAB Created in Brazil)

While records show A.A. meetings were held in Brazil as early as 1947, the country's first General Service Board - Junta Nacional de Alcoolicos Animos, or JUNAAB, is created in February 1976. (AA World Services Archives)

**Hill Country
Intergroup
Representatives
Meeting
2nd Monday
Of the
Month
6:30 PM
Covenant
Presbyterian
Church
Education Bldg.**

JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

Office -

Lizz R., John B., Billy C., Gordon D., Jim H., Jeanne R., Marty C., Buster S., Jamie D., Claire C., Dan H., Eileen B., Pat F., Jason M., Kenny, James B., Michael N., Leslie Ann D., Matt B., Melissa A.,

Hotline -

Mary Jo B., John B., Gordon K., Bridge to Shore group, Northland group, Meredith H., Mary T., Samantha D., Randy R., Into Action (Elgin) group, Eileen B., Chris C., Tamara P., Austin Big Book Step Study group, Keith W., Rick P., Dan B., Chris F., Mark A., Denise T.,



*HCIA Birthday Club
BIRTH DAYS
JANUARY*

*Suzanne McF
Smithville, TX
12 Years*



JANUARY DONATIONS

Lighthouse Group - \$100	Sunday South - \$35	Burnet Noon - \$300
Manor BB - \$46	Fresh Start - \$20	North Austin 24 - \$50
Grass Roots - \$75	Lockhart Into Action - \$10	Desire to Stop - \$807
Sunday AM Sidewalk - \$15	7th Street Sisters - \$276	Central - \$40
Saturday AM Serenity - \$172	Straight Pepper Diet - \$68	Kingsland - \$200
Westlake - \$500	Keep 1st Things 1st - \$274	Sunshine (Austin) - \$50
Promises (Austin) - \$95	Round Rock Big Book - \$100	
Allandale - \$898	Bridge to Shore - \$764	
A Way Out (Austin) - \$300	Being Convinced - \$200	
Our Gang - \$130	Wimberley - \$20	
Keystone - \$253	Brushy Creek Serenity - \$25	
Higher Power Hour - \$791	Georgetown - \$177	
Kempner AA - \$36	On The Colorado - \$10	
Bouldin - \$8	Northland - \$38	
Sunshine Group - \$118	1825 Group - \$300	
The River Group - \$25	Kingsland Brown Bag - \$100	
Driftwood - \$59	Citywide - \$150	
1313 - \$1,010	Marble Falls - \$50	Total - \$8,695

Getting to Know You....

“Not to embarrass you but so that we can get to know you and talk to you after the meeting, will those with less than thirty days of continuous sobriety please raise their hands?” How many times have we heard those words? They’re standard fare at all our meetings, and are, of course, intended to welcome the new person coming into A.A., who’s scared or shaking or perhaps belligerent and anxious. The newcomers will inevitably get a round of applause to let them know we care. But to what extent do we really intend to go beyond that cursory introduction and applause? To what extent do we really want to “get to know you” after the meeting or any other time? Do we “walk as we talk” -- a phrase we so often use?

Beside me sat Dick N., a brother in alcoholism, but a brother-in-law by marriage. It was his first meeting and he was nervous and apprehensive. I was glad to see how willingly his arm went up both at being an alcoholic and at having less than thirty days of sobriety. I watched Dick from time to time out of the corner of my eye. He seemed to be identifying with the speakers. A couple of times he caught me looking at him and he’d look over and nod appreciatively with a real but somewhat wry smile.

After the Lord’s Prayer, I felt grateful that we were able to offer hope, and that those who spoke had shared that fact. I took my coffee cup over to the trash and began to wander out to the parking lot. I was talking to some people when I realized that Dick hadn’t followed me out. I looked around and didn’t see him anywhere. I waited patiently but suddenly felt a little uneasy; maybe he was looking for me.

As I walked back into the now empty meeting hall, there stood Dick, all by himself. I walked up and as if talking to a four-year-old said, “Dick, the meeting’s over.” He turned to me and said, “Oh, I thought they wanted to talk to me after the meeting....”

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AA Thought For The Month

Humility for Today

Guilt is really the reverse side of the coin of pride. Guilt aims at self destruction and pride aims at the destruction of others.

This is why I see humility for today as that safe and secure stance midway between these violent emotional extremes. To take my next small step up the clearly marked road that points to eternal values.

The Best of Bill, p.47



HCIA DEAF ACCESS

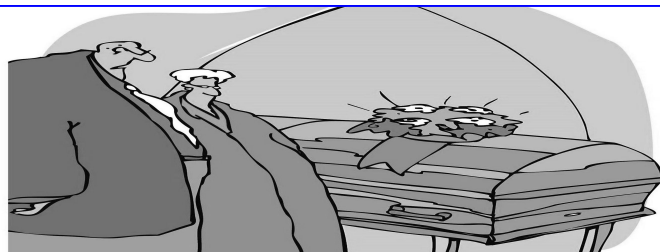


HCIA

AA HUMOR SECTION

You Might Be An Alcoholic If:

Thanks to you, Jack Daniel’s stock is up 15 1/4 since Friday.
 For the money you spent on Thunderbird, you could’ve bought the car.
 The glass keeps missing your mouth.
 You discover in the morning liquid cleaning supplies have disappeared.
 Beer: it’s not just for breakfast anymore.
 The bottle’s empty...that’s the problem!



"I told him back in '68, 'Frank, if you leave AA, you are gonna die'. It took forty-one years, but I finally proved my point."





“Cling to the thought that, in God’s hands, the dark past is the greatest possession you have—the key to life and happiness for others. With it you can avert death and misery for them”.
Bill W.

Capital Of Texas Conference 2014

Get ready for Austin’s Conference. The first ever Capital Of Texas Conference will be held in August 15-17, 2014. The conference committee chairs have been elected and are working to put together a great conference right here at home.

The next committee meeting will be held at Northland on February 24, 2013 at 2:00 PM.

The committee has picked the two finalists from the logo contest which you can see on the logo page of the website. The winner will be chosen at the February meeting. If you have any theme ideals please submit them to the email below.

webmaster@capitaloftexasconference.org

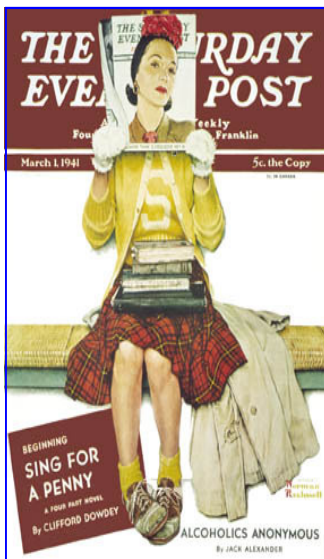
If you are interested in serving as a conference Co-Chair of a committee please come to the meeting. If you just want to come see what is going on or join a committee please come and join us.

The Conference Website Address:

<http://www.capitaloftexasconference.org>

Come visit our website and if you have any feed back please email the Website Coordinator.

webmaster@capitaloftexasconference.org



HCIA Deaf Access Committee: A Letter From the Chairperson

Greetings from Norma A, chairperson of HCIA's new standing committee, the Deaf Access Committee. This committee was formed by a number of individual AA members a couple of years ago, as we became aware of the need for interpreted AA meetings for our Deaf AA members here in Austin.

We began looking at what AA in other places had done and discovered that some places, such as Portland, Oregon, found it workable to pool resources of all AA groups in their area to provide for the cost of interpreters. So seventh tradition contributions were gathered and utilized to carry the message to our Deaf AA members. In this way the financial responsibility did not fall on one group or one AA member, but was shared by the fellowship, not only in the financial sense, but the spiritual responsibility we have as well to carry the message to all alcoholics.

. As we began organizing service for this, the response was heartwarming. As I began to visit AA groups to explain the problem, and the solution, and the need, after a few important questions were answered, AA groups and members began making regular contributions to what is now the Deaf Access Committee of Hill Country Intergroup. This has allowed us to have an ample number of interpreted meetings throughout each month, and has allowed more interaction between Deaf AA and hearing AA members. Also, it has made it easier for Deaf people who are just coming in to get connected with the fellowship right away. After a time of functioning successfully with good results and much support from AA—including our District, our Area, our Intergroup, and the AA fellowship in general, we found it wise to integrate with HCIA, as our purposes were so similar: providing information about AA and AA meetings. After some discussion, some guidelines were laid down and the Intergroup Board voted unanimously to propose that the Austin Deaf Access committee would become the HCIA Deaf Access Committee. Through our Intergroup Liaison, Intergroup supervises all of our activities, we provide regular reports, and I frequently communicate with the Intergroup manager about our plans and progress.

If you would like to know more about this new Special Needs service committee, please visit the Deaf Access Committee website. There is an increasing amount of information there about our history, the interpreted meeting schedule, our goals, and how to contribute. I am available to visit your group conscience or steering committee meetings to share information as well. We are proud to serve AA in this way, and welcome your involvement if you would like to be a part of the Austin Deaf Access Committee. Our web address is www.austindac.org and you can contact us at austindeafaccess@gmail.com.

In love and service,
Norma A.
HCIA DAC Chairperson

HILL COUNTRY
INTERGROUP



If you would like to help with the HCI Newsletter or you would like to volunteer at the Intergroup office you can contact us at (512) 444-0071. There are many opportunities for service work. You can also sign up to be on the 12th step list. Volunteering through the intergroup is a great experience. The Sobriety pages is always looking for articles. Tell you story or pick a topic.

The Sobriety Variety pages wants to tell your story. We also want to print your experiences with sobriety and service. Please send in your stories to:
hcieditor@hotmail.com

Upcoming Events For January

February 16th - Florence Renaissance Group Speaker Meeting!

February 16th - Stupid Cupid Dance CTC fundraiser!

February 16th - Austin Citywide Potluck and Speaker Meeting!

March 1-3—22nd Annual Chisholm Trail Convention!

March 8-10—Houston Intergroup 50th Anniversary!

March 9th - Lost Pines Group (Bastrop) Speaker Meeting!

April 5-7—SWTA 68 Pre General Service Assembly!

May 11th - 11th Annual Old Timers Banquet!

June 7-9 67th Annual Texas State AA Convention!

July 12-14 - SWTA 68 Summer Workshop!

For more information on these or any upcoming events go to the Hill Country Intergroup Website.

HIC WEBSITE ADDRESS

www.austinaa.org

You will find flyers with all the pertinent information for the event and a map to the location.

