

SOBRIETY VARIETY PAGES

Hill Country Intergroup

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

Volume 8, Issue 6

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Step Six

Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

The moment we saw that we had an answer for alcoholism, it was reasonable (or so it seemed at the time) for us to feel that we might have the answer to a lot of other things. The A.A. groups, many thought, could go into business, might finance any enterprise whatever in the total field of alcoholism. In fact, we felt duty-bound to throw the whole weight of the A.A. name behind any meritorious cause.

Here are some of the things we dreamed. Hospitals didn't like alcoholics, so we thought we'd build a hospital chain of our own. People needed to be told what alcoholism was, so we'd educate the public, even rewrite school and medical textbooks. We'd gather up derelicts from skid rows, sort out those who could get well, and make it possible for the rest to earn their livelihood in a kind of quarantined confinement. Maybe these places would make large sums of money to carry on our other good works. We seriously thought of rewriting the laws of the land, and having it declared that alcoholics are sick people. No more would they be jailed; judges would parole them in our custody. We'd spill A.A. into the dark regions of dope addiction and criminality. We'd form groups of depressive and paranoid folks; the deeper the neurosis, the better we'd like it. It stood

to reason that if alcoholism could be licked, so could any problem.

It occurred to us that we could take what we had into the factories and cause laborers and capitalists to love each other. Our uncompromising honesty might soon clean up

gone to the other extreme and settled for the bottle and the blackout. Providence, through A.A., had brought us within reach of our highest expectations. So why shouldn't we share our way of life with everyone?

Whereupon we tried A.A. hos-

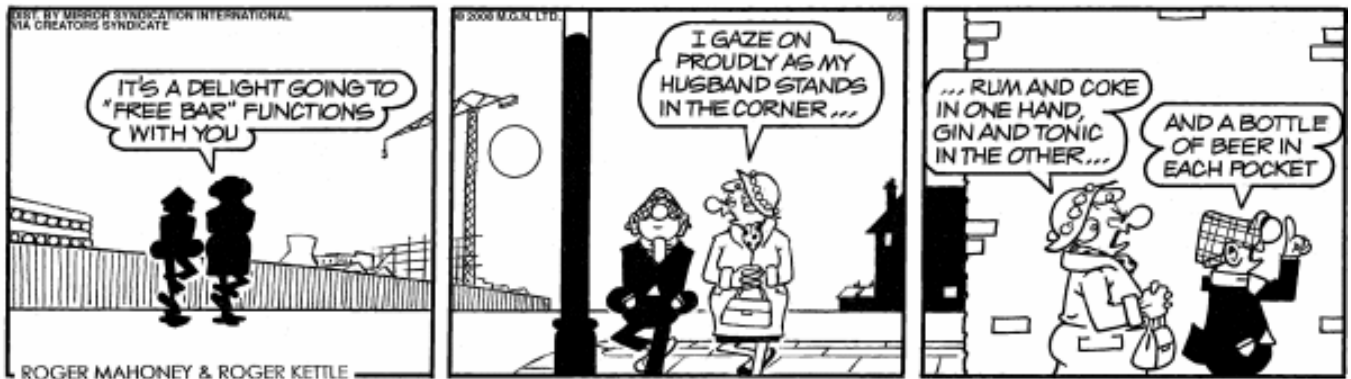


politics. With one arm around the shoulder of medicine, we'd resolve their differences. Having learned to live so happily, we'd show everybody else how. Why, we thought, our Society of Alcoholics Anonymous might prove to be the spearhead of a new spiritual advance! We might transform the world.

Yes, we of A.A. did dream those dreams. How natural that was, since most alcoholics are bankrupt idealists. Nearly every one of us had wished to do great good, perform great deeds, and embody great ideals. We are all perfectionists who, failing perfection, have

pitals-they all bogged down because you cannot put an A.A. group into business; too many busybody cooks spoil the broth. A.A. groups had their fling at education, and when they began to publicly whoop up the merits of this or that brand, people became confused. Did A.A. fix drunks or was it an educational project? Was A.A. spiritual or was it medical? Was it a reform movement? In consternation, we saw ourselves getting married to all kinds of enterprises, some good and some not so good. Watching alcoholics

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Tradition Six

Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual.

Secondary aids to A.A., such as clubs or

hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name.

Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are

usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A.—and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one.

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

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committed will-nilly to prisons or asylums, we began to cry, "There oughtta be a law!" A.A.'s commenced to thump tables in legislative committee rooms and agitated for legal reform. That made good newspaper copy, but little else. We saw we'd soon be mired in politics. Even inside A.A. we found it imperative to remove the A.A. name from clubs and Twelfth Step houses.

These adventures implanted a deep-rooted conviction that in no circumstances could we endorse any related enterprise, no matter how good. We of Alcoholics Anonymous could not be all things to all men, nor should we try.

Concerning endorsements, ... We saw as never before that we could not lend the A.A. name to any cause other than our own.

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“We of AA could not be all things to all men, nor should we try.”



Concept Six

The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board.

May Volunteers

Thank You!

Office:

Brad R. Dan W. Shabd
 Kevin B. Deb J. Shelton
 Marla K. Dennis G.
 Siiri W. "Pete" P. Lesly
 John P. Gordon Kelly D.
 Jim H. D. Mark
 Marty C. Billy C. John B.
 Mary L. James B.
 Marilyn C. Scotty H.
 Sandy R.

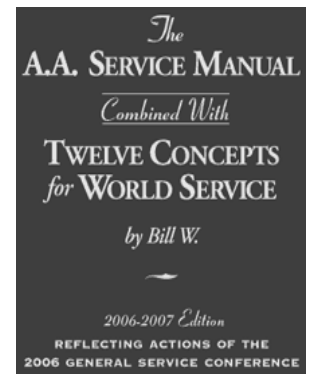
Hotline:

Tom K. Laney H. Sonya S. Deb J.
 Drew W. Kevin M. John B. Lee A.
 Sharon T. Dudley F. Chris F. LeslieAnn
 Eileen B. Darlene V. Alex H. Nancy N.
 Keith F. Siir W. Ryan P. John P.
 Karin S. Marty C. Paul B. Don K.
 Erick A. John P. NA24 Carlos A.
 Tammy D. Belinda B. Shawn C. Cliff G.
 Rick S. Trina F. Chris W. Amy M.
 Scotty H. Danny/ Katherine

May Donations from Groups

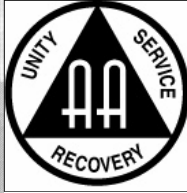
Thank You!

Burnet Noon	\$240	Pennsylvania	\$40	Austin City-Wide Group	\$150
Sunshine Group	\$100	Hope	\$5	Sunday Steps	\$3
Desire to Stop	\$150	Allandale	\$320	AA on the Creek	\$40
Buda 2 nd Chance	\$38	New Beginnings	\$122	Central	\$75
Started in Service	\$18	Bridge to Shore	\$750	Unity	\$55
Dripping Springs	\$366	Suburban	\$5	Elgin	\$10
Marble Falls	\$100	Northland	\$514		
Last Call	\$100	Dry Creek	\$60		
Into Action (Lockhart)	\$30	Llano	\$125		
1825	\$150			Total	\$3,566



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

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 Road #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 (1st name, last initial)

In this publication.

HCIA Birthday Club – New Members May, 2007
Brad R. – South Austin BB Group – 11 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.



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