

"making money out of A.A."



Volume 9, Issue 08 August 2009

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Step Eight

Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS will never have a professional class. We have gained some understanding of the ancient words "Freely ye have received, freely give." We have discovered that at the point of professionalism, money and spirituality do not mix. Almost no recovery from alcoholism has ever been brought about by the world's best professionals, whether medical or religious. We do not decry professionalism in other fields, but we accept the sober fact that it does not work for us. Every time we have tried to professionalize our Twelfth Step, the result has been exactly the same: Our single purpose has been defeated.

Alcoholics simply will not listen to a paid twelfthstepper. Almost from the beginning, we have been positive that face-to-face work with the alcoholic who suffers could be based only on the desire to help and be helped. When an A.A. talks for money, whether at a meeting or to a single newcomer, it can have a very bad effect on him, too. The money motive compromises him and everything he says and does for his prospect. This has always been so obvious that only a very few A.A.'s have ever worked the

Twelfth Step for a fee.

In former days, the moment an A.A. hired out to outside agencies dealing with the alcohol problem, he was immediately tempted to use



the name Alcoholics Anonymous for publicity or money-raising purposes. Drunk farms, educational ventures, state legislatures, and commissions advertised the fact that A.A. members served them. Unthinkingly, A.A.'s so employed recklessly broke anonymity to thump the tub for their pet enterprise. For this reason, some very good causes and all connected with them suffered unjust criticism from A.A. groups. More often than not, these onslaughts were spearheaded by the cry "Professionalism! That guy is making money out of A.A.'s Twelfth Step work. The violation in these

instances was not professionalism at all; it was breaking anonymity. A.A.'s sole purpose was being compromised, and the name of Alcoholics Anonymous was being misused. It is significant, now that almost no A.A. in our Fellowship breaks anonymity at the public level, that nearly all these fears have subsided. We see that we have no right or need to discourage A.A.'s who wish to work as individuals in these wider fields. It would be actually antisocial were we to forbid them. We cannot declare A.A. such a closed corporation that we keep our knowledge and experience top secret. If an A.A. member acting as a citizen can become a better researcher, educator, personnel officer, then why not? Everybody gains, and we have lost nothing. True, some of the projects to which A.A.'s have attached themselves have been ill-conceived, but that makes not the slightest difference with the principle involved.

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BRADY AA'S 62nd ANNIVERSARY

*** "Thy Will Be Done." ***

Alcoholics Anonymous pg. 88

AUGUST 14TH & 15TH, 2009

1303 NORTH WALNUT STREET AT THE HEART OF TEXAS HOPE HOUSE (325)597-3725

▼FRIDAY AUGUST 14th, 2009

6:00PM REGISTRATION & Hospitality Room Opens
7:30PM History of Alcoholics Anonymous in McCulloch County
8:00PM AA SPEAKER ******JIMMY D.***** from Dallas, Texas
9:30PM NITE-OWL MEETING will be hosted by Members of
The Menard AA Group Menard, Texas

♥SATURDAY AUGUST 15th, 2009♥

8:00AM REGISTRATION & Hospitality Room Opens
10:30AM AA SPEAKER *****TRACI M.***** from Keller, Texas
11:45AM ALANON SPEAKER *****DEBBIE G.***** from Brownwood, Texas
1:00 PM Lunch Provided by Brady AA Group (Donations Accepted)
2:00PM ~ 5:00PM Horseshoe & Washer Pitchin' Contests
6:00PM Dinner on Your Own or Sandwiches in Hospitality Room
7:00PM Final Raffle Giveaways & Trophy Presentations for Pitchin' Contests
8:00PM AA SPEAKER *****WILLARD M.***** from Devine, Texas

- **▼ Raffle** Drawings throughout Weekend **▼ Hospitality Room Open All** Day on Both Days **▼**
- ♥ Tons of Fun & Fellowship ♥ Archives Room Open ♥ Homemade Ice-Cream & Desserts ♥
- ♥ Registration is Free ♥ 7th Tradition Contributions Accepted not Required ♥

Tradition Eight

Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fees or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those services for which we might otherwise have to engage nonalcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But our usual A.A. Twelfth Step work is never to be paid for.

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July Volunteers

Thank You!

Office:

Molly, Nancy K., John B., Mark L., Lesly J., Clare, Keli D., Norma A., Buster S., Billy C., Marty C., Christy, Jamie D., Richard K., Morna N., Mick, Kevin B., Erick H., Kimberley, Cullen L., Rachel Z., Eileen B., James B., Allison A., Kathleen G., Sherry W., Blair, Scott W.

Hotline:

Chris F., Dudley F., Kathleen G., Jack A., Jim H., Scott C., Erick H., Katherine H., Gunnar S., Eileen B., Cliff G., Nancy K., Rita R., Gary B., Meredith H., Mark A., Rachel Z., Marty C., Roland P., Morna N., Paul B., Amy M., Will C., Linda V., Keith F., Dennis/Deanie L., Mark L., Danny/Tonya S., Drew W., Cullen L., Ruben G., Jim G., Tammy D.

Concept Eight

The trustees are the principal planners and administrators of overall policy and finance. They have custodial oversight of the separately incorporated and constantly active services, exercising this through their

ability to elect all the

directors of these entities.

July Donations from Groups Thank You!

Georgetown - \$100

Saturday AM Serenity - \$113

Suburban - \$10

Allandale - \$137

New Beginnings - \$324

A way Out - \$210

South Austin Big Book Group - \$65

Bridge to Shore - \$150

Being Convinced - \$150

Sunset Canyon - \$50

Started in Service - \$21

Buchanan Brown Bag - \$25

Last House on the Block - \$53

Bluebonnet - \$317

Elgin - \$10

Four Points - \$100

Northland - \$290

7th St. Sisters - \$54

Turn Around Taylor - \$20

North Austin 24 - \$50

Phelan Rd. - \$10

Beautiful D T Driftwood - \$55

Miracles - \$100

Georgetown - \$50

Kempner - \$26

620 Peace Group - \$50

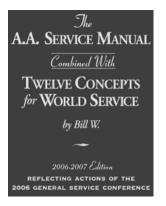
Sisters in Sobriety

(Marble Falls) - \$25

Central - \$40

Spiritual Awakenings - \$13

Hope Group (Cedar Park) - \$1,072



Total

\$ 3,690

HILL COUNTRY INTERGROUP

If you want to drink, that's your business.
If you want to stop
And can'tthat'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 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 (1st name, last initial)

In this publication.

HCIA Birthday Club - New Members July 2009

Joe S.
Bridge to Shore
17 years

ANDY CAPP



