

SOBRIETY VARIETY PAGES

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Our Mission

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

**Information 12th
Step Referrals
Service
Opportunities**

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

Humility is God's Grace

When I came to AA I thought that I was prideful and intelligent and good looking and that I was all that. I then learned that I had to admit that I was powerless over alcohol and later powerless over everything besides my own attitude and actions. I went through the steps with a vengeance mostly to prove that I did not need them, but I found that with each step a principle appeared in my life that I did not have before. I found Honesty in step 1 and Open-mindedness in 2 and Willingness in 3 then Acceptance in 4 and Courage in 5 and along with each of those the wall of pride that I lived with started to crumble, and I found that I did not know everything. I was still good looking and that took a while longer to let go of. I started to learn the principle of change in 6 and then God showed my humility in 7 as I went to my knees and ask for him to remove all my shortcomings. I then found forgiveness in 8 and the most wonderful thing of all happened in 9, freedom. I then found perseverance in 10, which allowed me to continue to right the wrongs, and admit my faults on a daily bases. I reached in further in 11 and learned patience as I found that prayer is asking god for help, but meditation was listening patiently for the answers. I found that the principle that has kept me wanting to grow and become the person that God wants me to be in 12 and that was Brotherly Love. These Principles have taught me what it means to be Humble and what having Humility is all about. I don't have to be arrogant or overly assertive today, and I found that it is OK to be proud of a good job. It is not OK to boast about that good job. I know the difference between false pride and being a proud person. I understand that just to the extent that I practice these principles in my life and how big my higher power is in my life decides just how much humility I have. I love this program for giving me a life that I probably do not deserve.

Robert C.

APRIL HISTORY (A.A. First General Service Conf.)

The first General Service Conference, orchestrated by chairman of the Alcoholic Foundation Bernard Smith, is held in April 1951 at the Commodore Hotel in New York, Bill W. later writes of its significance to A.A. (AA World Services Archives)

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

MARCH VOLUNTEERS

Office – John B., Jim H., Lizz R., Jon R., Jeanne R., Michael N., Pat F., Dan H., Eileen B., Billy C., Marty C., James B., Larry M., Norma A., Gordon D., Jason M., Matt B.,

Hotline – 7th St. Sisters group, Brad W., Roland P., Dave E., Rudy W., Any Lengths group, South Austin Big Book Group (SABBG), Jerry T., Chris C., Jim & Jeannie H., Primary Purpose Group (PPG), Mark K., Rick P., Gordon K., Marty C., Lake Travis Serenity group, Meredith H., Mark A., Chris F., Rachel E., Mary Jo B., Brad C., Tamara P., Jim H., Western Trails group,



*HCIA Birthday Club
BIRTH DAYS
MARCH*

None

MARCH DONATIONS

- Central - \$40**
- Georgetown - \$367**
- SOS (Hutto) - \$50**
- Reading Rainbow - \$21**
- Allandale - \$940**
- Graceland - \$100**
- Northland - \$210**
- Wimberley - \$10**
- Into Action (Lockhart) - \$10**
- 164 Pages - \$25**
- Keep 1st Things 1st - \$392**
- The River Group - \$25**
- Patio Group - \$98**
- On the Colorado - \$10**
- South Austin Big Book Group - \$38**
- Westlake - \$500**
- Grass Roots - \$58**
- Buda 2nd Chance - \$21**
- Bridge to Shore - \$641**
- Back to Basics (Marble Falls) - \$50**
- Austin Citywide - \$150**
- Welcome Home - \$50**

Total: \$3,806





AAFORTROOPS.NET NOW ON THE INTERNET - WORLDWIDE

Here's how AA Groups can now carry the message to AA men and women serving in the military, throughout the world, by making available recordings of other members sharing at open speaker meetings. If you go to our website, aafortroops.net, you can listen to a number of those recordings ... but many more are needed.

All we ask of participants is that they follow our tradition of anonymity, for themselves and others, at the public level. This also applies to places and things. If a mistake is made in these regards, don't worry. It will be edited out. Since anonymity is the spiritual background of our program, we give it the highest priority.

We are distributing this information throughout the Fellowship in the hope that those members active in service work will bring it before their respective groups for a "group conscience vote". There is absolutely no cost for participation, just our gratitude for your support.

If it is accepted, you can then contact us through our website, aafortroops.net, or by calling us at (212) 755-1000. Ask for "Troops". The recording equipment is on loan to participants, again at no cost. Additionally, handouts, with additional information, is in the making. Finally, if needed, top-flight technical support, on site, will be yours for the asking.

We have worked on this for over a year and believe we have all the wrinkles out of it. We are genuinely gratified by how it has been received by those who serve, the splendid men and women in our armed forces. We hope you can join us in our efforts ... there is great need.

Contact us at aafortroops.net or phone (212) 755-1000. Ask for "Troops".

AA Thought For The Month

Our Big Book

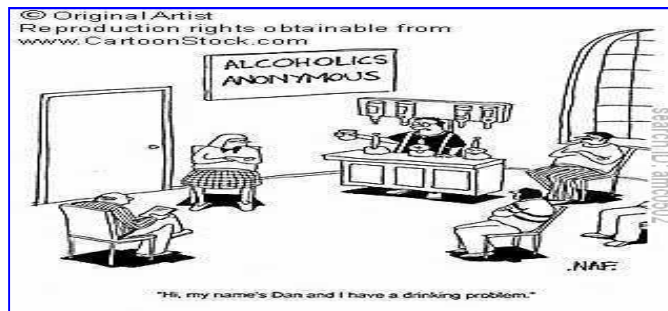
Thus we grow, and so can you, though you be but one man with this book in your hand. We believe and hope it contains all you need to begin. We know what you are thinking. You are saying to yourself: "I'm jittery and alone. I couldn't do that." But you can. You forget that you have just now tapped a source of power greater than yourself. To duplicate, with such backing, what we have accomplished is only a matter of willingness, patience, and labor.

Alcoholics Anonymous,
Pp. 162-163

AA HUMOR SECTION

You Might Be An Alcoholic If:

- Your bed is spinning and you have to put your foot on the floor to stop the spinning.
- You wake up in the morning and fall off the hood of your car.
- Worried friends call to make sure you returned the goat.
- Barney, the dinosaur is damned funny.
- When you can focus better with one eye closed.

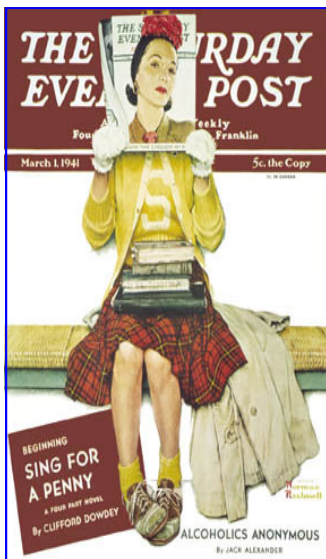


HCIA DEAF ACCESS





“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.

Future Fundraising Events:

4/20/2013 Pancake Breakfast with speaker \$5.00. Speaker - Lisa W.

6/23/2013 CTC Presents
 Sober Olympics - Participant \$10.00
 Spectators \$5.00

Check the CTC Website Or HIC Website for more information.

The next committee meeting will be held April 28, 2013 at 2:00 PM. At the Westlake Group.

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



Deaf Access Committee News and Actions

Greetings from Norma A., Chairperson of the DAC. As chairperson, I have had the opportunity to visit many AA groups to share about the Deaf Access Committee. Much of the info I share is available on the HCIA website, austinaa.org, and on the DAC website, austindac.org. Basically, we exist to carry the message to alcoholics who want to get sober, in this case, specifically, Deaf alcoholics.

The DAC has over 20 interpreters. Some are AA members, some are not. All of them are highly qualified professionals, who have gone through years of training in order to give an accurate interpretation of what is read or shared in an AA meeting. Two interpreters are required for a minimum of two hours, due to the physical and mental stamina required for error free translation.

Our interpreters are not volunteers, but certified professionals, and they are also bound by a code of ethics much like counselors or priests. They go by the same standard we set for AA members, i.e., what you see here, what you hear here - let it stay here. The DAC pays these interpreters a flat fee through donations from Seventh Tradition funds, which includes their transportation costs. However, this fee is still far less than what they could make working through an agency. We are grateful that they are friends of A.A., contributing their unique services to our great cause to live for. Last month, the DAC members put on a PI/CPC workshop for these professionals. This workshop was aimed at informing professional interpreters how to accurately interpret AA ideas, concepts, and language, in an effort to preserve the integrity of the AA message and have unity in how we carry the message to those who suffer from alcoholism. It was very successful. They have requested more workshops like this to help them to better understand these concepts. Hill Country Intergroup and the Deaf Access Committee members would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to those who have, by group conscience decision, agreed to participate financially and spiritually in helping to carry the message to all alcoholics.

These are some of our recent contributors:

Allandale Group

Bridge to Shore Group

Austin Citywide Group

Desire to Stop Group

Saturday AM Women's Recovery Group

1313 Group

Lake Travis Serenity Group

Several other groups have made the decision to contribute regularly to DAC, and their names will be posted in our next news bulletin, but our thanks go forward to them now! Bill W. said, "When we are generous with the hat, we give a token that we are grateful for our blessings and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with all who still suffer." 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 April and Beyond

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

April 6th - Suburban Alcoholic Foundation -Family Night!

April 6th - Hope Group (Cedar Park) 30th Anniversary!

April 7th - Yellow House Foundation Golf Tournament!

April 9th - 7th Anniversary PPG Austin!

April 11th - The Kayakers are Back!

April 13th - Westlake Group Sponsorship Clinic!

April 13th - Western Trails Group 3rd Annual Chili Cook-off!

April 13th - Lost Pines Group (Bastrop) Speaker Meeting!

April 19-21 - 27th Annual Bluebonnet Retreat!

April 20th - 1313 Group CTC Pancake Breakfast!

April 20th - Florence Group Speaker Meeting!

April 20th - Austin City Wide Potluck and Speaker!

April 21st - Fellowship in the Pines Kayak or Canoe Trip!

April 24th - Grass Roots AA Group 4th Anniversary!

April 27th - Fundraiser for Austin Roundup!

May 4th - 4th Annual District 2 Picnic!

May 11th - 11th Annual Old Timers Banquet!

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

June 23rd - Northland CTC Conference Presents Sober Olympics

July 11-14 - ICYPAA 2013 Phoenix, AZ

July 12-14 - SWTA 68 Summer Workshop!

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

www.austinaa.org

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

