

# THE SOBRIETY VARIETY

OCTOBER 2014

VOLUME 14: ISSUE 10

HILL COUNTRY INTERGROUP



## Driven

from Daily Reflections

*"Driven by a hundred forms of fear, self-delusion, self-seeking, and self-pity, we step on the toes of our fellows and they retaliate."*

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS, p.62

My selfishness was the driving force behind my drinking. I drank to celebrate success and I drank to drown my sorrows. Humility is the answer. I learn to turn my will and my life over to the care of God. My sponsor tells me that service keeps me sober. Today I ask myself: Have I sought knowledge of God's will for me? Have I done service for my A.A. group?

## 2015 A.A. International Convention



The 2015 International Convention of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held **July 2-5, 2015** in **Atlanta, Georgia** with the theme **"80 Years – Happy, Joyous and Free."**

A.A. members and guests from around the world will celebrate A.A.'s 80th year with Big Meetings held Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning in the Georgia Dome. Other meetings, scheduled or informal, will take place throughout the weekend in the Georgia World Congress Center and local hotels.

\*Registration opened on September 3, 2014. Go to [www.aa.org](http://www.aa.org) to register online. Registration brochures that include the registration form have also been mailed to G.S.R.s, Central Offices/Intergroups and International G.S.O.s/Central Offices/Intergroups.

\*Preregistration is available until May 12, 2015, and the preregistration fee is \$100.

\*After May 12, you may register on-site. The on-site registration fee is \$110. On-site registration will be set up in the Georgia World Congress Center in Atlanta and will open on Wednesday morning, July 1, 2015.

\*Payments from travel agencies to register groups or individuals will not be accepted.

\*The Convention app will be available for download in May 2015.

\*To make the process as fair as possible, all housing requests will be processed through the official Housing Bureau.

## The Tenth Tradition

No A.A. group or member should ever, in such a way as to implicate A.A., express any opinion on outside controversial issues—particularly those of politics, alcohol reform, or sectarian religion. The Alcoholics Anonymous groups oppose no one. Concerning such matters they can express no views whatever.

**10th Tradition Ten checklist from a late 60's grapevine article:**

1. Do I ever give the impression that there really is an "AA opinion" on Antabuse? Tranquillizers? Doctors? Psychiatrists? Churches? Hospitals? Jails? Alcohol? The federal or state government? Legalizing marijuana? Vitamins? Al-Anon? Alateen?
2. Can I honestly share my own personal experience concerning any of those without giving the impression I am stating the "AA opinion"?
3. What in AA history gave rise to our Tenth Tradition?
4. Have I had a similar experience in my own AA life?
5. What would AA be without this Tradition? Where would I be?
6. Do I breach this or any of its supporting Traditions in subtle, perhaps unconscious, ways?
7. How can I manifest the spirit of this Tradition in my personal life outside AA? Inside AA?

## PLEASE NOTE

**\*If your group/club is hosting an event next month please let us know. It's a great way to let the Hill Country AAs know about it!**  
email us at: [jaypeanut@rocketmail.com](mailto:jaypeanut@rocketmail.com)

**\*Please also let us know if you would like to be on the newsletter mailing list**  
email us at: [mailaustinaa@gmail.com](mailto:mailaustinaa@gmail.com)

## September HCIA Service Work *Rock Stars*

### OFFICE:

Marty C	Leslie Ann D
David C	Claire C
Frank B	Wendy F
Murdo M	Mary L
Pat F	Charles M
John B	Michelle S
Eileen B	Gloria G
Jeff K	Brian M
Marilyn C	Glenn S

### HOTLINE:

Chris C	Jerry T
Dudley F	David S
Marty C	Mary T
Fred J	John McM
Tom K	Darrin A
Terry S	David S
Randy R	Mark K
Gordon K	Linda G

### Weekend Hotline Groups:

Rule 62  
7th street Sisters  
Keystone group  
Into Action (Elgin)  
South Austin Big Book Group

### **\*\*Featured Group of the Month\*\***

#### *The "Single Purpose" Group*

Woodlawn Baptist Church  
Adult Wing, room A-101  
4600 Manchaca Rd.

(drive to the back and turn left at the playground;  
Adult Wing on right)

#### Mondays @ 7:00pm

**This group is a *Closed AA* meeting  
committed to respecting our singleness of purpose with top-  
ics coming from the Bog Book  
and other Conference approved literature**

## As Bill Sees It

### Personality Change

"It has often been said of A.A. that we are interested only on alcoholism. That is not true. We have to get over drinking in order to stay alive. But anyone who knows the alcoholic personality by firsthand contact knows that no true alky ever stops drinking permanently without undergoing a profound personality change."

<<<<<<>>>>>>

We thought "conditions" drove us to drink, and when we tried to correct these conditions and found that we couldn't do so to our entire satisfaction, our drinking went out of hand and we became alcoholics. It never occurred to us that we needed to change ourselves to meet conditions, whatever they were.

1. LETTER, 1940
2. TWELVE AND TWELVE, P. 47

## Future Local and Worldwide Events

- **A RECOVERY CONFERENCE @ SEA:** November 1-8  
7 day cruise vacation from Houston to: Cozumel, Belize, and Banana Coast Honduras. Includes: Meetings, workshops, 'In This Life' private tours, Dining, Dancing and entertainment on the Norwegian Cruise Lines 'Norwegian Jewel'

For more information, contact:  
Trips@inthislife.com or 805.927.6910 or 800.531.7578  
<http://travelsober.com/holiday/a-sail-of-all-sails/>

- **69th TEXARKANA ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION:**

November 7-9 @ Wyndham Garden Hotel  
5301 N Stateline Ave Texarkana, Tx 75503  
\$20 on site registration  
<http://texarkanaanniversaryconvention.strikingly.com/>

- **48th ANNUAL LAS VEGAS ROUND UP:**

Turkey day Weekend!  
November 27-30 @ Riviera Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, NV  
Limited number of rooms available at \$49/night.  
To reserve a room please contact the hotel directly at 1-800-634-6753 and mention Las Vegas Roundup, code SLVRU14  
Pre-Registration: \$35  
For more information: <http://www.lasvegasroundup.org/>

- **SOBER SISTERS WEEKEND TO BAHAMAS CRUISE**

Presented by *Gratitude Cruises* January 23-26, 2015  
Three night Bahamas Cruise on a Royal Caribbean vessel.  
Starts in Port Canaveral, Fl. and travels to Nassau, Bahama and Coco Cay, Bahamas. Returns to Port Canaveral, Fl. On the 26th  
For more information: <http://www.sobercelebrations.com/>

- **SOBER ADVENTURE TO INDIA: March 7-19, 2015**

Land trip, fine hotels and elephant safari. 561-702-2312  
For information: <http://www.sobercelebrations.com/>

- **SOBER MEDITERRANEAN & GREEK ISLES CRUISE:**

*Vision of the Seas* by Royal Caribbean  
Presented by *Gratitude Cruises* June 9 - 21, 2015  
8 Ports in Spain, France, Italy, Greece & Turkey  
Daily 12 step meetings  
561-702-2312  
For information: <http://www.sobercelebrations.com/>



### Cryptoholic??

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z	
													25	13												


Complete the fifth circle with the correct dots.



### BrainBasher



			5	8		9	3		
					4			6	
8	3				2			1	
		9	1				2		5
1									3
6		2				4	7		
	2				1			7	9
	6				9				
		4	5			2	1		

Sudoku 4 u



I Y P S E B G D J E A Q S K Y H U L  
 C I I U M C V E Z S E D S L Q T P G  
 S P W N K O O B G I B H E L C U K V  
 S X K L V M S E F V X V N G Z R K O  
 H E H I O E J W R M I P G J S T Z Y  
 J U G G E R N A U T L Q N F N F G W  
 C U O H D A Y T I N C Z I B J C L I  
 W X D T D B O U O T Y C L S B Z M G  
 H C T R I S T F P R W I L R N O P Z  
 P G B O X N I X H M Y P I M I P R D  
 Q Y L M I Y J M V S S R W X X A P U  
 P B H L J Q D J L O D X A T N K Q A  
 S I R S O G W U P P S E A T U I R O  
 N E Y O Z Z S I C Z H Z X D N L I N  
 N O F Q U J N D A Q Y C D M G B U E  
 P Y R V J I E U N T A N U T H O P E  
 X N B K O J V R F K M R R V C O A H  
 Q J M N A F Y I E V M Y Z N A Q I P

### Recovery Word Search

AKRON, AXIOM, BIG BOOK, HOPE,  
 INTUITIVELY, INVENTORY,  
 JUGGERNAUT, OPINION, SUNLIGHT

### appsoholics anon



AA Speakers (Alcoholics)  
 Marnistek - July 18, 2014  
 Lifestyle  
 \$1.00

For the cost of 'the usual' you can have the benefit of recovery when at home, on a break or when travelling. The AA speakers app allows you to listen to recovery speakers, workshops and audio books from Alcoholics Anonymous whenever and wherever using simply a wifi or cellular network connection. This app includes:  
 -300+ speakers speaking at Alcoholics Anonymous conventions worldwide with descriptions of where they are from and where they are speaking.  
 -The Joe and Charlie Big Book Study - a series of tapes talking about the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous.  
 -The Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous Audio Book.  
 -The 12 Steps and 12 Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous Audio Book  
 The content of this app is not being sold merely the software that plays it.

## 10th Promise

“We will intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle us.”

And we have ceased fighting anything or anyone—even alcohol. For by this time sanity will have returned. We will seldom be interested in liquor. If tempted, we recoil from it as from a hot flame. We react sanely and normally, and we will find that this has happened automatically. We will see that our new attitude toward liquor has been given us without any thought or effort on our part. It just comes! That is the miracle of it. We are not fighting it, neither are we avoiding temptation. We feel as though we had been placed in a position of neutrality—safe and protected. We have not even sworn off. Instead, the problem has been removed. It does not exist for us. We are neither cocky nor are we afraid. That is how we react so long as we keep in fit spiritual condition.

Alcoholics Anonymous pp.84-85

## LOCAL Announcements:

### Hill toppers MOVED:

Beginning **October 3rd, 2014.**

To:

Highland Park Baptist Church  
(at the upper rear entrance)  
5206 Balcones dr., 78731

### Midnight Meetings

Candlelight Crossover Meeting  
Fridays and Saturdays  
11:59pm @  
*We are Not Saints*  
900 Old Koenig Lane #131

## Fine New Chips at Hill Country Intergroup

New chips on the shelves at the Hill Country Intergroup. Come check out what we got. Other colors available as well.



Brothers of the 4th dimension  
Announces a new Men's meeting  
Closed Discussion meeting focused on  
*The Solution* found in alcoholics anonymous

Located @

North Central Austin  
(Koenig/2222 + Burnet)  
5704 Adams ave  
Austin, Tx 78756  
8:00 PM - CD BB M

—Yellow House on Adams ave. in the Tin Roof—

## A Hazelden Meditation

*“The strength of the drive determines the force required to suppress it.”*  
- Mary Jane Sherfey

We are all struggling to succeed. And each day of our lives we'll be confronted with major or minor adversities that might well interfere with our success. Adversities don't have to hinder us, however. They can strengthen us, if we incorporate them as opportunities for growth.

For many of us, the ability to handle adversity is a fairly recent phenomenon. And not always can we do it securely and with ease. But we are coming to believe that a power greater than ourselves is at hand and will guarantee us all the strength we'll ever need. Knowing that action is always possible, that passive acceptance of any condition need never be necessary are unconditional gifts of living the Twelve Step program.

Our path forward is as certain as our commitment to it, our belief in the strength of the program, and our faith that all is well even when times are troubled. No one ever promised that our new way of life would be always easy. But we have been promised that we'll arrive at our proper destination if we do the footwork and let God do the navigating. Success is at hand. I will apply what I'm learning, and I'll meet it.



**Step 10:**

"Continued to take personal inventory, and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it."

**How It Works**

This thought brings us to Step Ten, which suggests we continue to take personal inventory and continue to set right any new mistakes as we go along. We vigorously commenced this way of living as we cleaned up the past. We have entered the world of the Spirit. Our next function is to grow in understanding and effectiveness. This is not an overnight matter. It should continue for our lifetime. Continue to watch for selfishness, dishonesty, resentment, and fear. When these crop up, we ask God at once to remove them. We discuss them with someone immediately and make amends quickly if we have harmed anyone. Then we resolutely turn our thoughts to someone we can help. Love and tolerance of others is our code.

-A.A. Big Book p.84

**HCIA Donations:**

<u>Group name</u>	<u>Donations YTD</u>
Buda Big Book	\$128.50
Buda Second Chance	\$25.00
Driftwood Group	\$224.08
Into Action (Lockhart)	\$40.00
River Group (S. Marcos)	\$200.00
Second Chance	\$70.00
Wimberley Group	\$163.65

**Seventh Street Sisters**

Invites you to join us for our

**Women's  
Beginners'  
Meeting**

Saturdays at 5:30 pm  
2701 South Lamar Blvd.  
Faith United Methodist Church  
in the Alpha classroom

**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 engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes.

Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

**Prayer of the month:**

**Morning Prayer - p. 86 BB**

God, direct my thinking today so that it be divorced of self pity, dishonesty, self-will, self-seeking and fear. God, inspire my thinking, decisions and intuitions. Help me to relax and take it easy. Free me from doubt and indecision. Guide me through this day and show me my next step. God, give me what I need to take care of any problems. I ask all these things that I may be of maximum service to you and my fellow man in the name of the Steps I pray. AMEN.

**This month in AA History: October**

In October of 1944, The first non American branch started in Sydney, Australia by Father T. V. Dunlea & Rex. Also, this month in AA history:

- Oct 1 - 1941 - Local news reports 1st AA Group in New Haven, CT.
- Oct 1 - 1957 - Book "A.A. Comes of Age" published.
- Oct 2 - 1944 - Marty M. founded National Committee Education Alcoholism, later became National Council on Alcoholism.
- Oct 3 - 1945 - AA Grapevine adopted as national publication of AA.
- Oct 5 - 1988 - Lois W. died and is buried next to Bill in Manchester, Vermont.
- Oct. 9-11 - 1969 - 1st World Service meeting held in New York with delegates from 14 countries.
- Oct 20 - 1928 - Bill wrote promise to Lois in family Bible to quit drinking. By Thanksgiving added second promise.
- Oct 24 - 1942 - L.A. Times reports AA groups in 14 California cities.
- 1994 - National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence celebrates 50 years.

