600 University Office Blvd. • Suite 14B • Pensacola, FL 32504

**DECEMBER 2022** 

(850) 433-4191 • www.aapensacola.org • info@aapensacola.org

Volume 8, No. 12

# Our Three Legacies... Recovery, Unity & Service

Steps, Traditions and Concepts



#### **Step Twelve**

"Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs."

The joy of living is the theme of A.A.'s Twelfth Step, and action is its key word. Here we turn outward toward our fellow alcoholics who are still in distress. Here we experience the kind of giving that asks no rewards. Here we begin to practice all Twelve Steps of the program in our daily lives so that we and those about us may find emotional sobriety. When the Twelfth Step is seen in its full implications, it is really talking about the kind of love that has no price tag on it.

#### **Tradition Twelve**

"Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities."

The spiritual substance of anonymity is sacrifice. Because A.A.'s Twelve Traditions repeatedly ask us to give up personal desires for the common good, we realize that the sacrificial spirit - well symbolized by anonymity - is the foundation of them all.

#### **Concept Twelve**

"The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action."

The sum of these several attitudes and practices is, in our view, the very essence of democracy — in action and spirit. Freedom under God to grow in His likeness and image will ever be the quest of the Alcoholics Anonymous. May our General service Conference be always seen as a chief symbol of this cherished liberty. To a man, we of A.A. believe that our Freedom to serve is truly the freedom by which we live — the freedom in which we have our being.



### AAGRAPEVINE Checklist

## Tradition Twelve: Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.

- 1. Why is it a good idea for me to place the common welfare of all AA members before individual welfare? What would happen to me if AA as a whole disappeared?
- 2. When I do not trust or agree with AA's current servants, who do I wish had the authority to straighten them out?
- 3. In my opinions of and remarks about other AAs, do I imply that membership requirements go beyond the desire to stay sober?
- 4. Have I a personal responsibility to help an AA group fulfill its primary purpose? What is my part?
- 5. Do I do all I can do to support AA financially?
- 6. Should I keep my AA membership a secret, or reveal it in private conversation when that may help another alcoholic (and therefore me)? Is my brand of AA attractive so that other drunks might want it?
- 7. What does anonymity mean to me?
- 8. In light of increased awareness of alcoholism and AA's program of recovery among the general public, why is the principle of anonymity still important?
- 9. Am I mindful to respect the anonymity of other AA members who may work in my place of employment or my industry? How about AA members who live in my area or neighborhood?
- 10. What does "principles before personalities" mean to me?



Concept XII: The Conference shall observe the spirit of A.A. tradition, taking care that it never becomes the seat of perilous wealth or power; that sufficient operating funds and reserve be its prudent financial principle; that it place none of its members in a position of unqualified authority over others; that it reach all important decisions by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity; that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy; that it never perform acts of government, and that, like the Society it serves, it will always remain democratic in thought and action.

- How do we guard against becoming a "seat of perilous wealth or power"?
- How do we practice prudent use of our Seventh Tradition contributions and literature revenue?
- Do we insure the spiritual liberties of all A.A. members by not placing any member in the position of absolute authority over others?
- Do we try to reach important decisions by thorough discussion, vote and, where possible, substantial unanimity?
- As guardians of A.A.'s traditions, are we ever justified in being personally punitive?
- Are we careful to avoid public controversy?
- Do we always try to treat each other with mutual respect and love?

## This Month in A.A. History...

#### December 1:

1940 - Chicago Daily Tribune begins a series of articles on AA by Nall Hamilton

#### December 2:

1943 - Bill speaks to 300 at meeting inside San Quentin

#### December 5:

1985 - Dave B, founder of Montreal Group dies weeks before 50th anniversary Now his story is in the 4th Edition Big Book.

#### **December 6:**

1939 - Bert the Tailor lends Works Publishing \$1000 1979 - Akron Beacon reports death of Henrietta Sieberling

#### December 7:

1949 - Sister Ignatia accepts Poverello Medal of St Francis on AA's behalf

#### December 8:

1997 - "AsWeSeelt" emailing list started December 8, 1997

#### December 10:

1975 - "Birds of a Feather" AA group for pilots is formed

1934 - Bill admitted to Towns Hosp 4th/last time (fall '33, '34 in summer, midsummer and final admittance).

1941 - Dallas Morning News reports 1st AA group formed in Dallas

#### December 12:

1934 - Bill has Spiritual Experience at Towns Hospital 1937 - Bill meets with Rockefeller Foundation and tries to get money

#### December 13:

1934 - Ebby visited Bill at hospital, brought William James's book, "Varieties of Religious Experience". 1937 - Rockland State Mental Hospital takes patients to meeting in New Jersey

#### **December 19:**

1939 - Drunks in Los Angeles hold their 1st AA meeting there

#### **December 20:**

1945 - Rowland Hazard dies (he carried the Oxford Group message to Ebby)

#### December 27:

1893 - Rev Samuel Shoemaker is born

#### Other significant events in December for which we have no specific date:

1934 - Bill & Lois start attending Oxford Group meetings.

1938 - Using Oxford Group principles, Bill closes the loopholes and changes the 6 steps to 12.

1939 - First AA group in mental institution, Rockland State Hospital, NY.

1939 - 1st home meeting in Los Angeles at Kaye M.'s house.

1939 - Matt Talbot Club has 88 members, uses wagons to collect old furniture to recondition & sell, not A.A., used A.A. program, material, marked 1st effort reach alcoholics outside married middle-class category.

1940 - 1st AA group formed in St. Louis, Missouri 1940 - group started Ashtabula, Ohio due to Plain Dealer articles. A.A. Cleveland has about 30 groups.

1948 - Dr. Bob's last major talk, in Detroit.

1950 - Grapevine article signed by both Bill and Dr Bob recommend establishing AA General Service Conference.

1955 - 'Man on the Bed' painting by Robert M. first appeared in Grapevine. Painting originally called 'Came to Believe'

1982 - Nell Wing retires from GSO after 35 years of service

understanding true made reality acting holy heart Science substance matter progress consciousness demonstrated law demonstration healed sense powers spiritual worship fact only conditions for the powers in strong until healing theories of the possible way Spiritual worship fact only conditions only on the powers spiritual worship fact only conditions to strong until healing theories of the power spiritual worship fact only conditions only only on the power spiritual worship fact only conditions to strong until healing theories of the possible senses infinity selectific manual factorial selections on the power of the power spiritual worship factorial selections on the power of the power spiritual worship factorial selections on the power of the power spiritual worship factorial selections on the power of the power



# Join the Tri-District Faithful Fivers



"When we meet and defeat the temptation to take large gifts, we are only being prudent. But when we give a token that we are grateful for our blessing and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with other who still suffer." — Bill W. Reprinted from The Language of the Heart with permission from the AA Grapevine, Inc.

#### **2022 Tri-District Faithful Fivers**

Bill S	John W	Tom C	
Bruce P	Lori B	John L	
Gerry B	Marlene M	Cheryl S	
Glenn S	Renee McC	Virginia D	

#### ~ Committee Meetings ~

**District 13** GSR Meeting will meet on Thursday, December 1st at 6 PM at St Francis Episcopal Church on 1 St Francis Dr.

**District 22** GSR Meeting will meet on Monday, December 5th at 4 PM here at New Warrington on 605 N 65th Avenue.

**Tri-District Intergroup Committee** will meet on Monday, December 12th at 6 PM here at Central Office on 600 University Office Blvd., Ste 14B.

**Alkathon Committee** will meet on Thursday, December 15th at 6 PM here at Central Office on 600 University Office Blvd., Ste 14B.

**District 21** GSR Meeting has been CANCELLED for November and will resume in January.

**Tri-District PI/CPC Committee** will meet on Sunday, December 18th at 2 PM here at Central Office on 600 University Office Blvd., Ste 14B.





#### Birthday Club - November 2022

Carol V December 1979 Morning Brew Mark V November 1998 Solutions Donna G November 2007 Fireside

Anyone wishing to becoming a part of the Birthday Club — See page 8 for details.





# 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Open House

Tri-District Intergroup Central Office You're Invited!

We will have Coffee & cookies with Sonny's BBQ with anything else You would like to share..

# Saturday, December 10th, 2022 9 AM to 3 PM

Come enjoy the food, fun & fellowship!

600 University Office Blvd, Suite 14B



New Warrington Fellowship Group will have their Annual Open House beginning December 18th @ 8 AM They'll have plenty of Coffee, Food and Fellowship on hand throughout the Holiday season! Please take a moment to stop by for a meeting or just a cup of coffee. Food and money donations accepted.

605 N. 65TH AVENUE · PENSACOLA, FL 32506

# PI-CPC MEETING

# Public Information & Cooperation with the Professional Community Committee Meeting

Santa Rosa and Escambia County FL A.A.

Meets every **3rd Sunday @ 2 pm** @ Central Office and Online via

https://meet.jit.si/

Meeting Name: PI-CPCPensacola12

Scan QR code or download the app Jitsi Meet and enter the meeting name in the Start Meeting bar



Let's help the still suffering alcoholic by educating the public and professionals on what AA is, what it does, and what it doesn't do!

850-433-4191

picpcpensacola@gmail.com **⊕** 600 University Office Blvd.,

Ste 14B • Pensacola, FL 32504











# Winter Alkathan HOSTED BY AL-ANON DISTRICT 11



"First Things First"

AT FIRST UMC OF PACE • 4540 CHUMUCKLA HWY • PACE, FL 32571

On Saturday, January 28, 2023

5PM FELLOWSHIP • 6PM DINNER • 7PM SPEAKERS

Tickets Available After Dec 15th Al Anon Speaker

Shelly F. • Serenity on Sunday

AA Speaker

Mike F. . As Bill Sees It

A TICKET WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ENTRY & DOOR PRIZE

Tickets are Used for the Fried Chicken Count • Tickets are FREE, One Guest per Ticket
PLEASE ONLY TAKE A TICKET IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING
WE BUY CHICKEN AND SALAD BASED ON TICKET COUNT
This is a Potluck Event • Bring a Covered Dish or Dessert to Share

FRIED CHICKEN & SALAD PROVIDED

FUNDRAISING BASKETS WELCOME!

Food, Fun & Fellowship!

SOBRIETY COUNTDOWN • DOOR PRIZE DRAWING 50/50 DRAWING • GIFT BASKET RAFFLE

GET YOUR TICKETS BY CONTACTING:

Kim W. 612-272-1742 • Ruth C. (Central Office) 850-433-4191 If you want to get involved with the Alkathon Committee, email Jackie V. at: tri.district.alkathon@gmail.com



#### Join the Tri-District Faithful Fivers

"When we meet and defeat the temptation to take large gifts, we are only being prudent. But when we give a token that we are grateful for our blessing and evidence that we are eager to share what we have found with other who still suffer." — Bill W.

Reprinted from The Language of the Heart with permission from the AA Grapevine, Inc.



#### What are Faithful Fivers?

Faithful Fivers are AA members who contribute at least Five dollars each month to support Tri-District Intergroup AA Central Office to carry the AA message of hope and recovery to those alcoholics who still suffer in the Tri-District Area of Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties. As a Faithful Fiver, your personal contribution can and will make our vital services possible.

The Faithful Fiver idea came about when we remembered we wasted much more than five dollars each month during our drinking days. Your contribution will help Tri-District Intergroup AA Central Office provide the services necessary to carry the message of Alcoholics Anonymous.

#### **Tri-District Central Office**

helps carry the AA message to the still suffering alcoholic by coordinating the following services:

- Answers inquiries from those seeking help (suffering alcoholics, sober alcoholics, meetings, groups, professionals and the general public)
- Orders & sells AA literature
- Publishes meeting lists
- Maintains a 12-step list to help the still suffering alcoholic
- Maintains and updates website: www.aapensacola.org
- Acts as an information exchange for all Escambia and Santa Rosa meetings and groups

 Cooperates closely with other AA entities such as GSO New York, General Services, Public Information/Cooperation with Professional Community, Hospitals & Institutions, and Bridging the Gap Committees.

#### Your Contribution goes directly to supporting these services!

If you want to drink —
That is your business —
If you want to stop drinking —
That's Ours.

Tri-District Central Office Building 14, Ste 14B 600 University Office Blvd. Pensacola, FL 32504 (850) 433-4191 Www.aapensacola.org

#### FAITHFUL FIVERS ARE DOING SERVICE WORK!

Yes! Please enroll me as a Faithful Fiver!	Date								
I will pay □ Annually (\$60) □ Quarterly (\$15) □	Monthly (\$5)								
Please email a reminder   Email address									
Here is my contribution of \$ for	months.								
Name									
Address									
City	State	Zip							
Phone number									
Mail to: Tri-District Central Office, 600 University Office Blvd, Ste 14B, Pensacola, FL 32504									



Birthday Club is when AA members contribute \$1 per year of their Sobriety to the Central Office as act of gratitude and support your local Tri-District Intergroup.

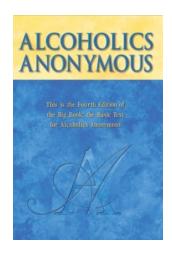
All you do is send us your Contribution on your Birthday month with your sobriety date & home group or mail it in with this sheet and we will print it in the Newsletter monthly Birthday Club.

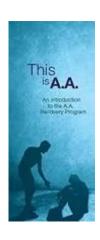
## Name

#### **Sobriety Date**

#### **Home Group**

# **Books behind Bars**







# The Tri-District Area Correctional Facilities need Books & Pamphlets!

# You can help!

This program is open to all Correctional facilities in this area!!

You can send donations (cash or Check) to the Tri-District Intergroup Central Office 600 University Office Blvd., Ste 14B Pensacola, FL 32504

Mark it "Books behind Bars"

# December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				District 13 GSR Mtg 6:00 PM	2	3
4	District 22 GSR Mtg 4:00 PM	6	7	8	9	10 7th Annual Christmas Party 9 AM - 3 PM
11	Tri-District Intergroup Committee 6:00 PM	13	14	Alkathon Committee Meeting 6:00 PM	16	17
18 Tri-District PI/CPC Committee 2:00 PM	19	20	21	22	23 Central Office CLOSES @ 2 PM	24
25 Merry Christmas	26  Merry Christmas  Central Office CLOSED	27	28	29	30 IAG MEDILLION MEETING 6:00 PM	31