

Step 10

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

One of the worse hangers that I can ever have in life is anger. This is something that I must take care of real fast, not let it go on for days or even hours. I am very aware of how I treat people and when I lay my head down at night and I can't go right to sleep, there is something the matter with the way I have lived my life that day. Time to take that daily inventory. There are times when I have to do this as the day goes on. If I am feeling overwhelmed

(spot check). Having been in this program for some time now I know that I have to do this step all the time (every day). I have had to make this a daily thing in my life. At first I thought this was going to be a drag, until I realized how good it made me feel at the end of the day and during the day. This does not mean that people don't hurt me, but I have learned not to lash back, I gain a lot more with love than anger. For me it is a bad day when I don't tell someone that I love

them, as most of you well know. I have learned that love is a lot more then what I grew up with. To-day I know that I love you for no other reason than because you are you. This step has also shown me the good side of me also, things that I have done well today. I always try to look at both sides of the day the good and the bad, and thank God for sitting beside me all day, and you know what? I slept pretty well last night!

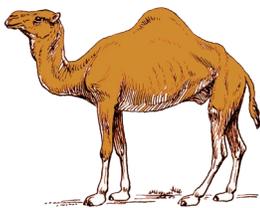
Anonymous Story

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

Tradition 10

“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. “



I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.

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Stepping Stones is a monthly newsletter of the Ninth District Intergroup with the office located at: 6640 Eastex Freeway, Suite 149A, Beaumont, TX 77708. It is about, by and for the members of the Fellowship of AA. Opinions expressed herein are Not to be attributed to AA as a whole, nor does publication of information imply any endorsement by either AA or the Ninth District Intergroup.

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Contributions from our readers is encouraged. Submissions are edited for space and clarity only. Contact information is required and anonymity is respected. ■

DAILY INVENTORY

When we retire at night, we constructively review our day. Were we resentful, selfish, dishonest or afraid?

PERSONALITY CHARACTERISTICS OF SELF-WILL		PERSONALITY CHARACTERISTICS OF GOD'S WILL
SELFISH AND SELF SEEKING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> INTEREST IN OTHERS
DISHONESTY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> HONESTY
FRIGHTENED	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> COURAGE
INCONSIDERATE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSIDERATE
PRIDE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> HUMILITY—SEEKING GOD'S WILL
GREEDY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> GIVING OR SHARING
LUSTFUL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> WHAT CAN WE DO FOR OTHERS
ANGER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> CALM
ENVY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> GRATEFUL
SLOTH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> TAKE ACTION
GLUTTONY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> MODERATION
IMPATIENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> PATIENCE
INTOLERANT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> TOLERANCE
RESENTMENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> FORGIVENESS
HATE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> LOVE—CONCERN FOR OTHERS
HARMFUL ACTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD DEEDS
SELF-PITY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> SELF-FORGETFULNESS
SELF-JUSTIFICATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> HUMILITY—SEEK GOD'S WILL
SELF-IMPORTANCE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> MODESTY
SELF-CONDEMNATION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> SELF-FORGIVENESS
SUSPICION	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> TRUST
DOUBT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> FAITH

Concept X

Every service responsibility should be matched by an equal service authority—the scope of such authority to be always well defined whether by tradition, by resolution, by specific job description or by appropriate charters and bylaws.

Nearly all societies and governments of today exhibit serious deviations from the very sound principle that *each operational responsibility* must be accompanied by a *corresponding authority* to discharge it. This is why we have been at such pains in preceding discussions to define the several authorities and responsibilities of the A.A. groups, the Conference, the Trustees, and our active service corporations. We have tried to make sure that authority in each of these levels is equal to responsibility. Then we have tried to relate these levels one to another in such a way that this principle is maintained throughout. An outstanding characteristic of every good operational structure is that it guarantees harmonious and effective function by relating its several parts and people in such a way that none can doubt what their respective responsibilities and corresponding authorities actually are. Unless these attributes are well defined; unless those holding the final authority are able and willing properly to delegate and maintain a suitable operational authority; unless those holding such delegate authority feel able and willing to use their delegated authority freely as trusted servants; and unless there exists some definite means of interpreting and deciding doubtful situations— then personal clashes, confusion, and ineffectiveness will be inevitable.

Excerpts from The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Service by Bill W.

AA GRAPEVINE

The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous



<http://www.aagrapevine.org/>



When I first started thinking seriously of joining the Marine Corps, I had three years of sobriety under my belt. The people closest to me in AA suggested the Corps might not be the best option because it is where a lot of people learn to drink, especially in the infantry. My AA friends were concerned the move would affect my sobriety.

I always heard in meetings not to make any big changes in my first few years of sobriety. But that never made sense to me. Our Big Book even had us do the opposite. First, we had to give up drinking and that was a huge change. Then, we had to turn our will and our lives over to a God of our own understanding. That alone was asking a lot for a guy who didn't grow up believing in God. After that, I had to tell another man some of my deepest darkest secrets that I had planned to take to the grave. Later on, I had to face my wrongs and make them right. And several of my wrongs potentially involved me being locked up for a long time.

These were all huge changes that were necessary for me to stay sober. But I had a new relation-

ship with my creator. I felt that I had the tools needed to remain sober while fighting for our country. So I joined the Corps.

Being well-grounded from my home group, I got on the bus to go to boot camp and was feeling in fit spiritual condition. However, the moment I stepped off the bus and on the yellow footsteps, all that conditioning slipped away.

Boot camp felt like being a prisoner of war, with everything you love being just outside the gate. I was introduced to a new level of fear. The purpose of boot camp is to break down the civilian person so they can build you back up as a Marine. Needless to say, the drill instructors were very good at what they did. They worked us relentlessly. I lost over 30 pounds in 13 weeks.

The only thing that kept me going was that at night I had a routine of reviewing my day and keeping a close contact with my Higher Power. As an alcoholic, I don't know if I would have kept my sanity without that.

After surviving boot camp, I went back to my home group and had a tough time holding down my ego. I was very proud, doing everything from wearing Marine Corps shirts to making sure I mentioned my experiences in all my shares and all my conversations. Every time I mentioned being a Marine,

people felt obligated to give their thanks and support.

Although I was sitting at four years of sobriety at that point, I let the Marine Corps distract me from our singleness of purpose, which is to help the alcoholic still suffering. Over the next couple of years, I only went to a handful of meetings and that was just to show my face and leave. My priorities quickly shifted to chasing women, competitive fighting and being the "tough guy" I thought I had to be. I didn't realize this at the time but I became the alcoholic who still suffered.

I was entering my last year on my contract and received deployment orders to get shipped to the Middle East. Normally, this is something every Marine was excited about. However, I was put into a position of leadership and once again I was full of fear.

I had enough AA in me to know that I couldn't lead anyone if my head wasn't in the right place. So I contacted our chaplain and the Substance Abuse Control Officer to find out if there were any AA meetings organized as one of the services. To my surprise there wasn't anything at all. And so I worked with them to create a new meeting called "Friends of Bill."

See the rest of the story in this month's issue of Grapevine Magazine.

Grapevine Online Exclusive Tough enough

When the helmet comes off and the Big Book comes out, there's no such thing as seniority

Group Contributions — September, 2017					
Group	Month	Y to D	Group	Month	Y to D
6 O'Clock	\$0.00	\$0.00	Lumberton Singleness of Purpose	\$0.00	\$240.00
A New Beginning (Woodville)	\$0.00	\$0.00	Mid County (Nederland)	\$0.00	\$40.00
Anahuac	\$0.00	\$0.00	Murray Street	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bolivar	\$0.00	\$0.00	Mustard Seed	\$0.00	\$687.00
Bridge City	\$0.00	\$250.00	New Life	\$0.00	\$0.00
Buna	\$0.00	\$0.00	Newton	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cornerstone	\$0.00	\$10.00	Nueva Vida (Port Arthur)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Dam Group (Hwy. 225)	\$0.00	\$0.00	Orange	\$10.00	\$100.00
Deweyville	\$0.00	\$0.00	Pecan Groves	\$0.00	\$0.00
Downtown	\$0.00	\$0.00	Pineywoods	\$10.00	\$70.00
Fellowship	\$0.00	\$2,570.79	Primary Purpose	\$0.00	\$83.76
Fresh Start	\$75.00	\$666.57	Rule #62 Young Peoples Group	\$0.00	\$0.00
Friends of Bill (Port Author)	\$0.00	\$0.00	Serenity	\$0.00	\$594.86
Hope Group	\$0.00	\$110.91	St Francis	\$0.00	\$0.00
Jasper Noon	\$0.00	\$0.00	The Buck Stops Here	\$0.00	\$50.00
Jasper Serenity	\$0.00	\$0.00	TLC	\$0.00	\$155.00
Keep It Simple	\$0.00	\$0.00	Un Dia A La Vez	\$0.00	\$0.00
Kirbyville	\$0.00	\$256.24	Vidor	\$0.00	\$0.00
Kountze Daylight	\$0.00	\$0.00	West End	\$0.00	\$33.00
Lewis Drive	\$0.00	\$0.00	Winnie (Unconditional Love)	\$0.00	\$256.00
Liberty	\$0.00	\$50.00	Way Out	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lufkin	\$0.00	\$0.00	Women's Gratitude Group	\$0.00	\$0.00
			Totals	\$95.00	\$6,324.13

**We want to sincerely thank you for your contributions. Please address your gifts to:
 Ninth District Intergroup Association — 4224 College St. — Beaumont, TX 77707
 Phone: 409-832-1107 — Fax: 409-898-8977 — E-mail: intergroup9@att.net — Web: aabeaumont.org
 If you see mistakes, please call, write or come in. We want to be accurate and ask that you verify your totals.**

Would You Be On Our 12 Step List?

Home Group: _____

Name: (Please Print) _____ Male/Female: _____

Address: _____

Phone: Home: _____ Work: _____ Cell: _____

Area In Which You Will Serve: _____

Car Available: Yes _____ No _____ Languages Spoken _____

Times Available: (Circle Choices Please) 8 AM – 6 PM 6 PM – 12 MDN 12 MDN – 8 AM

Days Available: (Circle Choices Please) SU M TU W TH F SA

Addresses AA Entities

9th District Intergroup

4224 College St
 Beaumont, TX 77707

District 90 GSR Committee

PO Box 21279
 Beaumont, TX 77720-1279

Southeast Texas Area 67

PO Box 130433
 Houston, TX 77219-0433

AA General Service Office

PO Box 459
 New York, NY 10163-0459

Opportunities For Service

SHARE THE MESSAGE IN THE COUNTY, STATE AND FEDERAL FACILITIES

We need men and women to go into the County jail on Sat. @ 11:30 each week. There is also a need for men to go into the State and Federal facilities on a weekly basis or even just once a month to give current volunteers a much needed break. Each facility requires a background check before you enter. To find out more information please come to the monthly CSR meeting and talk with the correction committee members or call Intergroup @ 409-832-1107.

TREATMENT FACILITY COMMITTEE

We need volunteers to go into both the men and the women's facilities. Come to the next

Announcements

Next District 90 GSR Meeting

November 4, 2017 At 2:00 PM

West End Group

1235 Crockett, Beaumont, TX

Everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend.

Next 9th Dist. Intergroup Meeting

October 29, 2017 At 2:00 PM

Westgate Memorial Baptist Church

6220 Westgate Drive, Beaumont, TX

Everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend.

Meeting is held in the rear of the building.

9th District Intergroup Is Moving!!!

We will be in our new location

November 1, 2017

4224 College St - Beaumont TX 77707

(Directly across from Raceway Track Fueling Station)

Our current office will be closed

**Monday, October 30th and Tuesday October 31st
to facilitate the move.**

**We look forward to serving
you at our new location!!!**

DISTRICT 90'S
2017 GRATITUDE DINNER
"THE GRACE OF GRATITUDE"

WHEN: Saturday, November 4, 2017
5:00pm - Fellowship
5:30pm - Joan R. - Alanon Speaker
7:00pm - Dinner w/ music by Malana
8:00pm - John Mc - AA Speaker

WHERE: St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
1350 23rd St. N, Beaumont
(Corner of 23rd & Gladys)

Tickets: \$10.00

*Hosted by Serenity Group
Co-Hosted by St. Francis Group*

November is Gratitude Month - Come Show Yours!



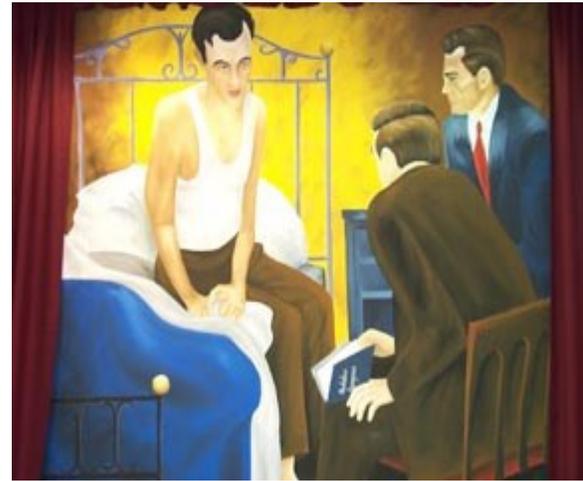
SHORT STORY FROM A MEMBER OF THE FELLOWSHIP

I've always loved Halloween, but it made me nervous when I first got out of recovery. I spent so many past Halloweens drinking and partying that I was worried this beloved holiday would prove to be a trigger.

But I didn't want to miss out on dressing up and seeing my friends celebrate, so I decided to look for ways to make a sober Halloween a fun and awesome experience. To my surprise, it was incredibly easy.

Nowadays, not only do my wife and I have an annual Halloween party, but the absence of alcohol isn't even a blip on the screen. Everyone is too busy enjoying themselves and getting in the spirit. The best part is that finding new ways to enjoy Halloween made it easier to enjoy other holidays and celebrations without alcohol.

Caleb



Step 10 Principles:

- ⇒ **PERSEVERANCE**
- ⇒ **DISCIPLINE**
- ⇒ **OPEN-MINDEDNESS**

10th Promise
Fear of People and of
Economic Insecurity
Will Leave Us

Tenth Step Prayer (Growth)

I pray, God,
 that
 You remove
 my
 selfishness,
 dishonesty,
 resentment and fear.

*9th District Intergroup Annual
Golf Tournament*

Saturday, November 11, 2017

Bayou Din Golf Club

Golf, Lunch, Raffle and Prizes!!!

4 Man Scramble

\$75.00 Per Person

\$300.00 Per Team

**Get Registered Early!!!
Fill out the entry form below
and mail to Intergroup.**

**For More Information Call
Julian at 409-331-4113
or
Rusty at 409-791-3244**



ENTRY FORM

TEAM:

Name: _____ Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Team Contact Phone #: _____

Team Contact Email: _____

INDIVIDUAL:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Total Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

Make Checks Payable To: 9th District Intergroup

Mail Form to: 9th District Intergroup, 4224 College St, Beaumont, TX 77707