

## 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

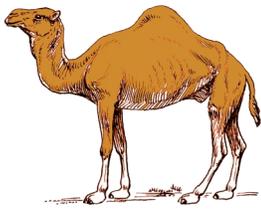
(spot check). Having been in this program for some time now I know that I have to do this step all the time (every day). I have had to make this a daily thing in my life. At first I thought this was going to be a drag, until I realized how good it made me feel at the end of the day and during the day. 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 than what I grew up with. Today 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*

## 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: 4224 College St., Beaumont, TX 77707. 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. ■

# 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.*

**MAIL RECIPIENT PLEASE MAKE THIS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF STEPPING STONES AVAILABLE TO YOUR GROUP**



# AA GRAPEVINE

The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous



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

**To Receive Grapevine go the website and order**



## Don't Drink The Wine

BY: CORKY S. | QUITMAN, TEXAS

*God usually speaks to me through other alcoholics. The proof of his existence is the peace and serenity in my life. So far, that has kept me sober for more than 46 years.*

In my first 30 years of life, I was educated in religion, both in school and in church. I learned the rules and tried to follow them, and I never understood why following them was so difficult.

My religion taught me that if we ate meat on Friday and died before we confessed that sin, we would go directly to hell. Then suddenly, they changed that rule; we no long-

er were required to refrain from eating meat on Friday. My immediate and ongoing question was, and still is: What about those millions in hell all those years because they ate meat on Friday and died before confessing?

That's when I came to the conclusion that rules were manmade. Soon after that, another religious decree appeared that made it acceptable to confess sins directly to God if you wanted; confessing to the minister was no longer required.

When I got to AA, I understood that I could not take alcohol into my body in any form. If I did it would start the unquenchable craving for alcohol. So I consulted with an older friend of mine who had this same allergy to alcohol. He was the most devout church member I had ever known and attended services every day. I asked him if I should drink the transformed wine. His answer was instant: "Don't drink the wine."

So now my spiritual journey suggested that I improve my conscious contact with God, as I understood him. That meant, for me, that I had to be open-minded about God, as I understood him. I had to be willing

to accept for consideration anything that this God as I understood him would reveal to me.

Today my life is guided by this God as I understand him, every minute of every hour of every day. Do I do whatever I feel he says? Absolutely not. I carefully consider everything that's revealed to me. I usually accept it after I consider it at length. God usually speaks to me through other alcoholics.

My God does not have a name other than "as I understand him." The word "Good" is as close as I can get to a name for my God today. For me, the proof of his existence is the peace and serenity in my life. He lets me know what I should and shouldn't do daily. He does not require money. He does not require me to tell others that he's the only God. He does not require anyone to believe anything or join any church or religion or sect or denomination. He gives me direct knowledge of what to do in my life, one day at a time. I must choose to do it or not. So far, that has kept me sober for more than 46 years.

**GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS — SEPTEMBER 2020**

Group	Month	Y to D	Group	Month	Y to D
6 O'Clock	\$0.00	\$0.00	Lumberton Singleness of Purpose	\$0.00	\$0.00
A New Beginning (Woodville)	\$0.00	\$0.00	Mid County (Nederland)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Anahuac	\$0.00	\$65.00	Murray Street	\$0.00	\$140.00
Bolivar	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>Mustard Seed</b>	<b>\$89.38</b>	<b>\$941.38</b>
Bridge City	\$0.00	\$0.00	New Life	\$0.00	\$0.00
Buna	\$0.00	\$0.00	Newton	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cornerstone	\$0.00	\$0.00	Nueva Vida (Port Arthur)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Deweyville	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>Orange</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>	<b>\$180.00</b>
Downtown	\$0.00	\$0.00	Pecan Groves	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	Pineywoods	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fresh Start	\$0.00	\$101.90	Personal Stories Group	\$0.00	\$50.00
Friends of Bill (Port Author)	\$0.00	\$0.00	Port Arthur	\$0.00	\$37.28
Hope Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	Primary Purpose	\$0.00	\$0.00
Jasper Noon	\$0.00	\$0.00	Serenity	\$0.00	\$0.00
Jasper Serenity	\$0.00	\$0.00	St Francis	\$0.00	\$380.00
Keep It Simple	\$0.00	\$0.00	The Buck Stops Here	\$0.00	\$0.00
Kirbyville	\$0.00	\$0.00	<b>TLC</b>	<b>\$209.00</b>	<b>\$656.60</b>
Kountze Daylight	\$0.00	\$0.00	Un Dia A La Vez	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lewis Drive	\$0.00	\$0.00	Vidor	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>Liberty</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>	West End	\$0.00	\$50.00
Lifeline	\$0.00	\$50.00	Winnie (Unconditional Love)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lufkin	\$0.00	\$0.00	Way Out	\$0.00	\$0.00
			<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$368.38</b>	<b>\$2,802.16</b>

**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 GSR 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.

## *Announcements*

**Next District 90 GSR Meeting**  
**November 1, 2020 At 2:00 PM**  
**West End Group**  
**1235 Crockett, Beaumont, TX**

Everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend.

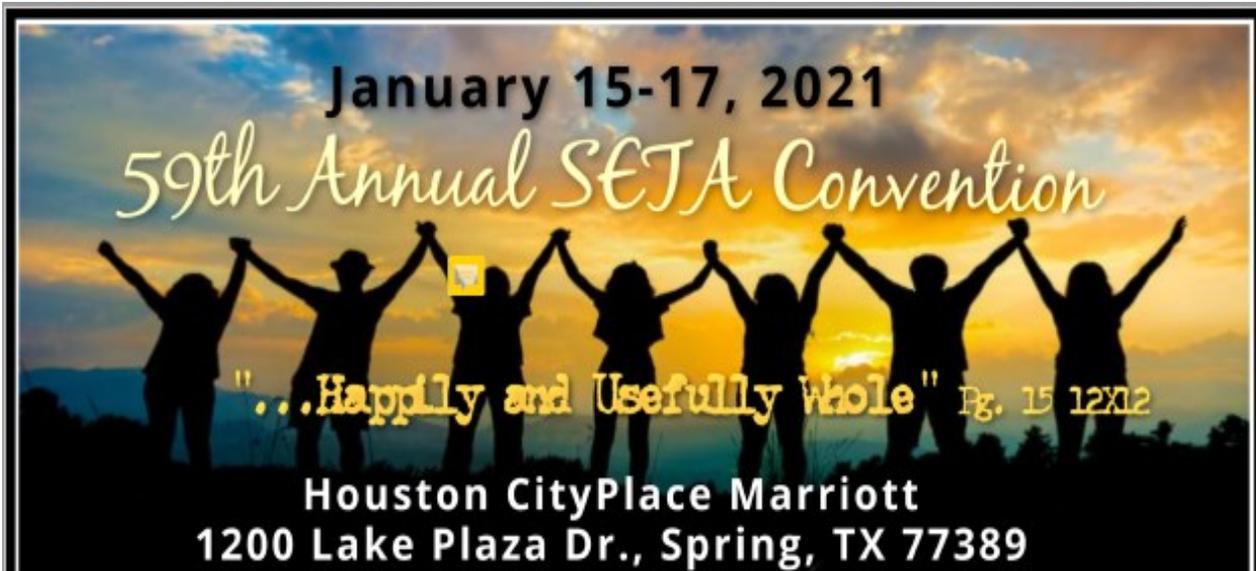
**Next 9th Dist. Intergroup Meeting**  
**October 18, 2020 at 2:00 PM**  
**Westgate Memorial Baptist Church**  
**6220 Westgate Drive, Beaumont, TX**

Everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend.  
Meeting is held in the rear of the building.

**\*\*\*\*Attention\*\*\*\***

**Next 9th District Intergroup Meeting October 18,  
2020 will be elections for committee positions**

**Social distancing, and mask required**



**Friday, January 15**

7:30 p.m. AA - Clif G., OKC, OK

10:00 p.m. AA - Matt C., Austin, TX

**Saturday, January 16**

9:30 a.m. GSO Speaker TBA

11:00 a.m. Al-Anon - Lori G., OKC, OK

1:30 p.m. CFC - Dan K., College Station, TX

3:00 p.m. Spanish Speaker TBA

4:30 p.m. Traditions at Home Workshop

8:00 p.m. AA - Jennifer H-K., Plano, TX

**Sunday, January 17**

10:30 a.m. AA - Johnny H., Long Beach, CA

**Pre-registration fee is \$15 for AA/Al-Anon  
VISIT: [setaconvention.org](http://setaconvention.org) or use the QR Codes.**

**REGISTRATION**



**HOTEL**

281-350-4000



**WEBSITE**



The hotel room rate is \$115/night and the cutoff date is December 29, 2020. The phone number for the hotel is 281-350-4000.

Full Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Group \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

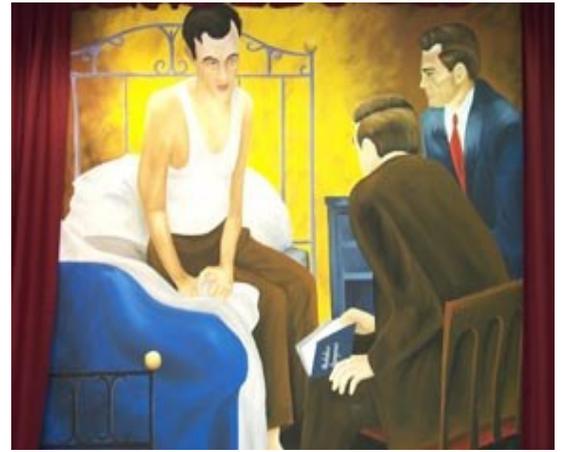
Badge Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Circle one please: AA    Al-Anon    Alateen  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



Quantity	Type	Price	Est. Cost
_____	AA / Early Registration	\$ 15.00	\$ _____
_____	Al-Anon / Early Registration	\$ 15.00	\$ _____
_____	Alateen / Child	FREE	\$ _____
_____	Coffee Tag	\$ 5.00	\$ _____
_____	Scholarship Donation		\$ _____
_____	<b>TOTAL DUE</b>		\$ _____

Alateens must have permission slips!  
 Please indicate special needs in the space below.  
 Spanish translation will be provided.

SETA Convention  
 448 W 19th Street #696  
 Houston TX 77008



# Happy Birthday To You!!!

Intergroup would like to congratulate everyone who is celebrating a birthday in October!!!

Sobriety is something that you must constantly work on because [recovery never really ends](#). Constant reflection on ongoing sobriety and celebrating your achievements is very important to stay on the wagon.

If you've got a sobriety birthday coming up and you're not sure if you want to do anything for it, keep reading to see just why it's important.

## What Is a Sobriety Birthday?

Simply put, a sobriety birthday is a day that a person chooses to celebrate their sobriety. It could be the anniversary of their first day without alcohol or the day they went to their first AA meeting. The actual event isn't as important as the reason behind it.

No matter what day you choose for your sobriety anniversary, it's very helpful for a lot of people to have a day to celebrate it. You'll find that many of your sober friends will look forward to celebrating with you.

An excerpt from The Token Shop

### 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.