

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

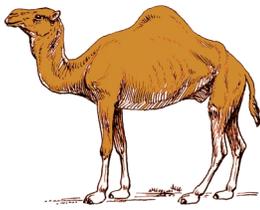
(spot check). Having been in this program for some time now I know that I have to do this step all the time (every day). I have had to make this a daily thing in my life. At first I thought this was going to be a drag, until I realized how good it made me feel at the end of the day and during the day.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

Inside this issue:

Step 10—Tradition 10	1
Concept 10	2
Grapevine Story	3
Contributions	4
2021 District 90 Annual Gratitude Dinner	6
GSR / Intergroup meeting Intergroup Open House	5
10th Promise, Principles , Prayer	7



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.

Quotations and artwork from AA literature are reprinted with permission from AA World Service, Inc. and/or The AA Grapevine, Inc.

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



OCTOBER 2021 | COOPERATION
WITH PROFESSIONALS (CPC) |
INTO ACTION

Caution: Busy life

BY: ANNE D. | FORT MYERS, FLA.

Work, travel, caretaking...how could she ever get to enough meetings? The answer was just a phone call away

“Don’t let the gifts you’ve received from the rooms keep you from the rooms,” was a bit of wisdom shared by oldtimers during the AA meetings I attended in early sobriety. I’m eternally grateful that these words still come to mind now, 12 years later.

I was brought into the rooms all those years ago because I was emotionally and spiritually bankrupt. Although I still had a job, a car and a family who tolerated me, I was miserable inside. I could no longer stand to look at the drunken girl who stared back at me from the mirrors I glimpsed myself in each night during my drunken ritual of isolation and wallowing in self-pity.

I came into the rooms with the desire to “control my drinking,” but I stuck around, attended meetings, stayed current with a sponsor and worked the Steps. Eventually, I came to understand that I was truly powerless over my disease and that I had to surrender myself fully to a Higher Power in order to begin to heal. I have not had to pick up a drink since.

In early sobriety, I was willing to go

to any lengths because hey, what did I have to lose? I couldn’t keep a man around, my friends were sick of me, and because I was not drinking, I had more free time than I knew what to do with.

So I jumped into service work and got involved in fellowship activities like conferences, retreats, coffees and other AA events. As I got my life together and began to go to school and date, I’d often try to skip out of meetings. My sponsor would remind me: Don’t let the gifts you’ve received from the rooms keep you from the rooms.

And she was right. I had to remind myself that I wouldn’t be able to focus at school, maintain a good reputation at work or be presentable enough to attract the interest of men if I didn’t stay sober. So I would get my butt to a meeting.

Thanks to my sobriety, I managed to complete my undergraduate degree, obtain a master’s degree and move from Nebraska to Florida. Along the way, I entered a new field of work, reconnected with my first love, got married and helped my husband raise his son, all while gaining a new close-knit group of women I’ve met through AA in Florida.

But as success in my career and personal life have grown, I’ve begun again to let my program slack. I travel a lot for work and my husband is disabled. I’m his caretaker, so leaving him alone for extended periods of time can be an issue and I’m thankful that I have a job that allows him to travel with me when necessary.

While I’ve been blessed with a busy career, it is one that doesn’t leave me with much free time during the week. So I’d gotten into the habit of only attending one meeting a week—my Saturday morning Women’s Dragon Fly Group, which is my home group. And because I wasn’t keeping up with my meetings the way I should, I found myself hesitating to pick up the phone

to stay current with my sponsor. What would I say to her if she asked me how many meetings I’d been to that week? More importantly, I’d allowed my ego to get the best of me. Hey, I have 12 years, I told myself. I don’t need three or four meetings a week like I did in early sobriety.

In the past few months I’ve struggled with feelings of irrationality and discontent and I knew exactly why—I’d allowed the gifts I’d gained in sobriety (a good job, a husband, great friends) to keep me out of the rooms. I knew how to fix my attitude—get to more meetings!—but how? I was exhausted as it was, and I couldn’t imagine trying to make early morning meetings or risk taking time off from work or get in trouble with my boss for going to noon meetings. Trying to fit meetings in during weeknights would put me at odds with my husband because that would cut down on quality time with him.

But God does for us what we can’t do for ourselves, and I am so thankful that my home group elected me as the Grapevine representative for our group. I got a subscription to Grapevine and I religiously read it. In one issue, I stumbled across an article by a member who attends phone meetings, and right away a light bulb went on. I can start attending phone meetings!

So I hopped on the AA website and located a phone meeting that meets each day at noon. It’s called Sober Voices. It’s now on my calendar every day. I can usually call in two or three times a week, which has been a blessing. I call in from my desk at work, plug in my headset and attend my AA meeting while I eat my lunch.

I am once again grateful for the wise oldtimers who taught me, “Don’t let the gifts you’ve received from the rooms keep you from the rooms.” I’m claiming my seat once again!

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS — SEPTEMBER 2021

Group	Month	Y to D	Group	Month	Y to D
6 O'Clock	\$0.00	\$0.00	Lumberton SOP	\$0.00	\$0.00
A New Beginning	\$0.00	\$0.00	Mid County	\$0.00	\$129.47
Any Lengths	\$0.00	\$550.00	Murray Street	\$0.00	\$70.00
Anahuac	\$0.00	\$55.00	Mustard Seed	\$0.00	\$1,386.00
Bolivar	\$0.00	\$0.00	New Life	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bridge City	\$0.00	\$0.00	Newton	\$0.00	\$0.00
Buna	\$0.00	\$0.00	Nueva Vida (Port Arthur)	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cornerstone	\$0.00	\$0.00	Orange	\$40.00	\$180.00
Deweyville	\$0.00	\$0.00	Pecan Groves	\$0.00	\$0.00
Downtown	\$0.00	\$0.00	Pineywoods	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fellowship	\$0.00	\$0.00	Personal Stories Group	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fresh Start	\$0.00	\$350.00	Port Arthur	\$0.00	\$0.00
Friends of Bill	\$0.00	\$0.00	Primary Purpose	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hope Group	\$0.00	\$702.46	Serenity	\$0.00	\$800.00
Jasper Noon	\$0.00	\$250.00	St Francis	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Jasper Serenity	\$0.00	\$0.00	The Buck Stops Here	\$0.00	\$0.00
Keep It Simple	\$0.00	\$0.00	TLC	\$276.00	\$773.20
Kirbyville	\$0.00	\$210.00	Un Dia A La Vez	\$0.00	\$0.00
Kountze Daylight	\$0.00	\$0.00	Vidor	\$0.00	\$50.00
Lewis Drive	\$0.00	\$0.00	West End	\$0.00	\$100.00
Liberty	\$0.00	\$150.00	Unconditional Love	\$0.00	\$33.70
Lifeline	\$0.00	\$0.00	Way Out	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lufkin	\$0.00	\$0.00	Totals	\$316.00	\$6,789.83

**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 7, 2021 At 2:00 PM
West End Group
1235 Crockett, Beaumont, TX

Everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend.

Next 9th Dist. Intergroup Meeting
October 17, 2021 at 2:00 PM
West End Group
1235 Crockett, Beaumont, TX

Everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend.

Ninth District Intergroup Association

If you have a problem with drinking, we have a solution.

Intergroup Open House

Saturday December 11, 2021

10 am - 4 pm

Food, Fun, Fellowship

25 % Off ALL Merchandise

District 90 Annual Gratitude Dinner



Fall Into Gratitude



Where: IBEW Local 479
1430 Spindletop Avenue
Beaumont, Texas

When: November 6, 2021

Time: 4:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Alanon Speaker at 4:45

AA Speaker at 8:00

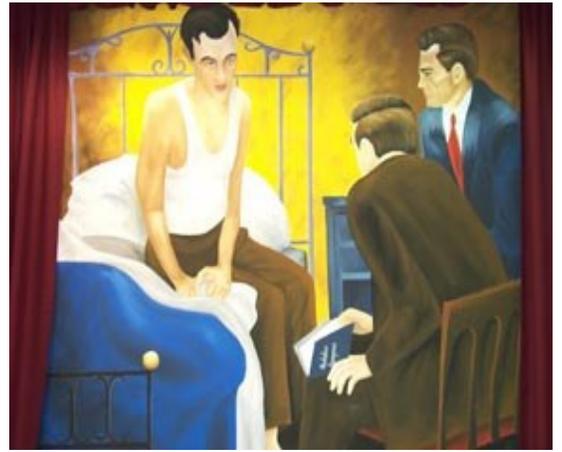
Cost: \$10 per ticket

There will be a spaghetti dinner (6:00 pm) including salad, garlic bread and a variety of desserts from which to choose!

Additionally, there will be door prizes and a 50/50 raffle (so be sure to bring cash)!

For groups wishing to donate, please send monetary donations to Bridge City AA at 302 Locust Ave., Bridge City, TX 77611.





Happy Birthday To You!!!

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

Step 10 Principles:

- ⇒ PERSEVERANCE
- ⇒ DISCIPLINE
- ⇒ OPEN-MINDEDNESS

At Wit's End

Grand finale

Newcomer: You know, I've always heard that love is grand.

Sponsor: Yeah, I've heard that too.

Newcomer: Yeah, but they never said that divorce is about 100 grand!

J.D.
Big Lake, Minn.

From the Grapevine, October 2021

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.