

STEP 6

“Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.”

“This is the step that separates the men from the boys.” So declares a well loved clergyman who happens to be one of A.A.’s greatest friends. He goes on to explain that any person capable of enough willingness and honesty to try repeatedly Step Six on all his faults — *without reservations whatever* — has indeed come a long way spiritually, and is therefore entitled to be called a man who is sincerely trying to grow in the image and likeness of his own Creator.

Of course, the often disputed question of whether God can — and will, under certain conditions — remove defects of character will be answered with a prompt affirmative by almost any A.A. member. To him, this proposition will be no theory at all; it will be just about the largest fact in his life. He will usually offer his proof in a statement like this: “Sure, I was beaten, absolutely licked. My own will-power just wouldn’t work on alcohol. Change of scene, the best efforts of family, friends, doctors, and clergymen got

no place with my alcoholism. I simply couldn’t stop drinking, and no human being could seem to do the job for me. But when I became willing to clean house and then asked a Higher Power, God as I understood Him, to give me release, my obsession to drink vanished. It was lifted right out of me.”

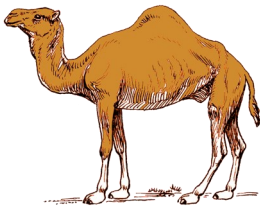
Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions—Page 63

TRADITION 6 LONG FORM

“Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to A.A., such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name. Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A. — and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never to go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one. ”

The moment we saw that we had an answer for alcoholism, it was reasonable (or so it seemed at the time) for us to feel that we might have the answer to a lot of other things. The A.A. groups, many thought, could go into business, might finance any enterprise whatever in the total field of alcoholism. In fact, we felt duty-bound to throw the whole weight of the A.A. name behind any meritorious cause.

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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 VI

On behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

The AA Service Manual/ 12 Concepts for World Services—pg. 24 of the Concepts Section

Just as the A.A. Groups find themselves unable to act decisively respecting world service affairs unless they delegate a great amount of active authority and responsibility to their Conference, so must the conference in turn delegate a liberal administrative authority to the General Service Board, in order that its Trustees may act freely and effectively in the absence of the Conference itself.

This critical need for Trustee liberty of action raises several important questions. Next to the Conference, A.A.'s Board of Trustees should be the most influential group of world servants that we have, and therefore we shall have to consider carefully the kind and degree of authority, responsibility, leadership, and legal status the Trustees must possess in order to function at top effectiveness over the years to come. We shall need to review and perhaps amend somewhat our present methods of choosing Trustees. We shall need to define clearly the several kinds of professional and financial skills that will always be required for a balanced trusteeship. Only by so doing can we permanently insure the Board's capability of future leadership.

In order to avoid continuous confusion, it will also be necessary to show precisely how the Trustees ought to be related to the Conference and just how they in turn should relate themselves to their active service corporations, A.A. World Services, Inc. (including its division of A.A. Publishing) and the A.A. Grapevine, Inc., our monthly magazine .

Excerpts from The A.A. Service Manual/Twelve Concepts for World Services—pg. 24 of the Concepts Section



AA GRAPEVINE



The International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous <http://www.aagrapevine.org/>



It's amazing that 80 years have passed since six "ink-stained wretches" started this wonderful, vital AA Twelfth Step tool. And oh, how we've grown, with a terrific new app, a fun weekly podcast, Instagram, YouTube and a library of helpful books carrying the AA message to millions of alcoholics around the globe!

To celebrate this historic occasion, this month we are featuring stories by members about how much Grapevine has meant to them. In the story "Come for the Ride!" a member shares her love for Grapevine and her wish to keep it going. In "Saved in Honduras," a nursing student finds her-

self far away in tequila hell and tells how Grapevine came to the rescue. In "Hooked," a woman isn't ready to stop drinking, until one day, someone hands her a Grapevine. And a huge Grapevine fan celebrates with his delightful, humorous article "80 Reasons I Love Grapevine."

Help us celebrate our 80th anniversary and spread the word about the new Grapevine and La Viña apps! They have many cool features to help your sobriety. They are free to download and only \$2.99 (USD) a month to subscribe—that's less than a cup of coffee! Don't worry, our beloved print magazines are here to stay. Want to help an alcoholic in need? Join our 2024 "Carry the Message" program. We have a long list of incarcerated members in need of

Grapevines. Get your groups, districts and areas involved! Visit aagrapevine.org/carry-the-message.

To see our beautiful brand-new Step book, visit aagrapevine.org/books. And join us every Monday on our lively AA Grapevine Podcast! Look for it wherever you get your podcasts. Follow us on Instagram at: [alcoholicsanonymous_gv](https://www.instagram.com/alcoholicsanonymous_gv). And as always, please keep those great stories, letters and jokes coming!

Help us celebrate Grapevine's 80th and have a beautiful, sober June!

In fellowship,

The Editor

editorinchief@aagrapevine.org

Group Contributions May 2024

Group	Month	Y to D	Group	Month	Y to D
6 O'Clock	\$0.00	\$0.00	Lufkin	\$0.00	\$0.00
A New Beginning	\$0.00	\$0.00	Lumberton SOP	\$0.00	\$0.00
Any Lengths	\$0.00	\$0.00	Mid County	\$0.00	\$0.00
Anahuac	\$0.00	\$50.00	Murray Street	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bolivar	\$0.00	\$200.00	Mustard Seed	\$0.00	\$610.00
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	Orange	\$0.00	\$80.00
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	\$100.00	Port Arthur	\$0.00	\$0.00
Friends of Bill	\$0.00	\$0.00	Primary Purpose	\$0.00	\$0.00
Hope Group	\$0.00	\$0.00	Serenity	400.00	400.00
Jasper Noon	\$0.00	\$342.00	St Francis	\$0.00	\$300.00
Jasper Serenity	\$0.00	\$0.00	The Buck Stops Here	\$0.00	\$0.00
Keep It Simple	\$0.00	\$10.04	TLC	\$0.00	\$229.00
Kirbyville	\$127.16	127.16	Vidor	\$0.00	\$0.00
Kountze Daylight	\$0.00	\$0.00	West End	100.00	100.00
Lewis Drive	\$0.00	\$0.00	Unconditional Love	\$0.00	\$354.00
Liberty	\$0.00	\$50.00	Way Out	\$0.00	\$0.00
Lifeline	\$0.00	\$0.00	Totals	\$627.16	2952.20

**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 — E-mail: steppingstones@abeaumont.org — Web: abeaumont.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

Ninth 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 2407
James A. Farley Station
New York, NY 10116-2407

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

July 7, 2024 At 2:00 PM
West End Group
1235 Crockett Beaumont, TX

Everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend.

Next 9th Dist. Intergroup Meeting

July 21, 2024 At 2:00 PM
West End Group
1235 Crockett, Beaumont, TX

Everyone is encouraged and welcome to attend.



43rd ANNUAL DISTRICT 90 CONVENTION August 16, 17 & 18, 2024

MCM ELEGANTE HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER
2355 I-10 Access Rd SOUTH
(GPS) 1355 EXECUTIVE BLVD, BEAUMONT, TEXAS 77705
409-842-3600
ROOM RATES - \$104 PER NIGHT / \$134 SUITE PER NIGHT /
\$144 CABANA BALCONY VIEW
EARLY DEADLINE - 8-02-2024

Pre-Registration:	Amt. Enclosed:
{ } AA @ \$ 15.00 each	\$ _____
{ } Al-Anon @ \$ 15.00 each	\$ _____
{ } Alateen @ \$ 3.00 each	\$ _____
{ } Sponsorship Donation	\$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$ _____

Alateens must have signed permission slips!

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AND
MAIL REGISTRATION FORMS TO:
District 90 Convention Treasurer
PO Box 1591
Groves, TX 77619**

ONLINE REGISTRATION
QR CODE





77th Texas State AA Convention

The Main Object...

June 21-23, 2024

Voice of the Convention – Wayne L. (Lakeside Group, Rockwall, TX)

Friday June 21

- 2:00 PM On-site registration opens
- 5:30 PM **Old Timers Meeting**
- 7:30 PM AA Speaker
Marian G. (Knoxville, TN)

The Westin Hotel
4545 W. John Carpenter Fwy
(Hwy 114)
Irving, TX 75063
972-929-4500

*For room accommodations,
request the rate for the
"Texas State Convention"*
\$129 per night
single or double

Book before June 6 to ensure availability.

Saturday June 22

- 9:30 AM Al Anon Speaker
Nancy S. (Topeka, KS)
- 11:00 AM AA Speaker
Erin B. (Cleveland, OH)
- 2:30 PM NETA, NWTA,
SETA, SWTA Delegates
- 3:00 PM GSO Speaker
Diana L. (New York, NY)
- 7:30 PM AA Speaker*
Jimmy A. (Spring
Lake Heights, NJ)

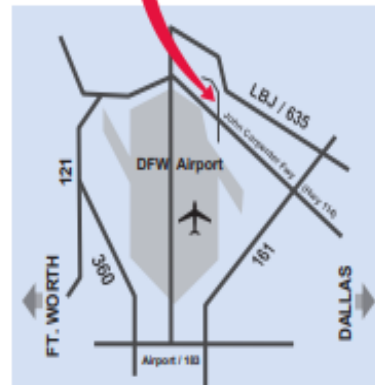
*Ice Cream Social Sat. Night
After Meeting*

Register online at:
txaaconvention.org

Or use the form below and send payment.

Sunday June 23

- 9:30 AM AA Speaker
Mike S. (Topeka, KS)



**An ASL interpreter will be available
for the Saturday night meeting.*

✂ DETACH AND RETURN

Registration Fee: \$20 per person

Name _____ Name on Badge _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Additional Registrations

Name _____ Name on Badge _____

Name _____ Name on Badge _____

Registration @ \$20 each = \$ _____

Scholarship Contribution = \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

MAIL FORM & PAYMENT TO: Texas State Convention
500 Tanglewood South
Irving, TX 75061
Make checks payable to: Texas State Convention



Happy Birthday To You!!!

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



6th Step Principle Willingness

6th Promise

That feeling of uselessness and self-pity will disappear.



We are not a glum lot.