

The Lighthouse

**Bill W. on the 7th Tradition
Step, Tradition, & Concept**

District 82 Event

Upcoming Events

District 82, Meeting Schedule

**To receive an email copy of this newsletter, send request to;
d82newsletter@gmail.com**

Bill W. on Tradition Seven

Despite our early Tradition of keeping A.A. poor for its own safety, we were still to have temptations. There were three of them.

The first came when we met with Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and his friends in the fall of 1937. At that time the possibility of unlimited financial backing pretty much dimmed our sharing of the vision of St. Francis. Dr. Bob and I, and indeed most of us, were awfully broke. Ideas of comfortable and well-paid jobs, chains of A.A. hospitals, and tons of free literature for suffering alkie seized our imagination. But Mr. Rockefeller had other ideas. He said, "I think money will spoil this." He acted accordingly, and A.A. stayed poor. St. Francis had given us the idea, but John D. wisely forced us to live up to it. This was the oddly assorted pair who were really responsible for A.A.'s Tradition on money. Thank God for them both!

The second temptation veered to the other extreme. We got so scared of money that we went tightwad, half-refusing to support A.A.'s simple but essential area-and-over-all services, without which we would fail to function and grow. Even now we haven't quite surmounted this one. We still drag our heels when the hat is passed to support local Intergroup offices and General Headquarters. And this holding back is not for lack of folding money either. The collective income of A.A.'s membership—the sum of our wages, salaries, and other emoluments—will presently reach a total of a billion dollars yearly. When sober and working, few alcoholics have any money trouble. Our earning power as individuals may actually be double the average. The material pay-off, as well as the spiritual pay-off, of A.A.'s way of life is downright incredible. Nevertheless, we still balk a bit when it comes to paying A.A.'s very reasonable service bills. Sometimes I think this may be all to the good. There is not the slightest danger that A.A. is ever going to get too rich from the voluntary contributions of its own members! There is a funny but revealing story about this. And the joke is on me. It was in 1941, just after the Saturday Evening Post story broke. The income from the A.A. book would not pay for answering the thousands of inquiries, and we had set up a dollar-a-year per member as the measuring stick for voluntary contributions that might meet the bill. It was the first time A.A. Headquarters had asked groups for any help.

At the time, Lois and I were receiving thirty dollars a week as the result of Mr. Rockefeller's dinner. We were living in a little room in the Twenty-Fourth Street club.

Our household furniture was still in storage and we were mighty hard up. One morning a bleary-eyed friend just off a bender stuck his head into the little Vesey Street office. I was pacing up and down, cussing out the drunks for being so slow in sending in their buck apiece. I was in a really mean mood, so I gave my bleary-eyed friend a big gripe on how stingy drunks were. Naturally, he agreed. cont,

Bill W. on Tradition Seven cont.

Just to make myself generous I pulled out a five-dollar bill and handed it to him. It was money that Lois needed for the groceries, and I knew very well that he would go out and drink it up. But this grandiose act made me feel good. I, poor I, could give five dollars when those guys out there couldn't even send in one dollar!

Distinctly satisfied with myself, I went to the meeting that night in the club. The club was behind with its rent. In those days, you could not mix the material with the spiritual at all. Money was a subject you could hardly mention. But the landlord was not getting his rent, so it had to be mentioned. At intermission, my old friend Tom B., who led the meeting that night, timidly said, "Now, folks, can't you go a little heavy on the hat tonight? We're kind of behind with the rent." Such was his apologetic announcement. I was sitting on the stairs with some new convert. Nevertheless, I heard him and I knew the club was behind. Finally, the hat came up the stairs where we were, and I reached in my pocket and got a coin. When I fished it out, it was half a dollar. Scarcely thinking, I dropped that half-dollar back into my pocket and produced a dime that clinked thinly in the hat. A minute later I woke up. I who had boasted of my generosity that morning was treating my own club worse than the alcoholics who had forgotten to send the Foundation their dollars. I realized that my five-dollar gift to the backslider was an ego-feeding act, bad for him and bad for me. There was a place in A.A. where spirituality and money would mix, and that was in the hat. I never since have criticized anybody for failing to send a dollar or so to Headquarters.

Our third money temptation was the greatest of all three.

One night the Trustees of our Foundation were having their quarterly meeting. The agenda included a crucial question: A certain lady had died, and when her will was read, it was discovered that she had left to Alcoholics Anonymous, in trust with the Foundation, a sum of \$10,000. The question was, should A.A. take the gift?

What a debate we had on that one! The Foundation was really hard up just then; the groups were not sending in enough money for the support of the office; we had been tossing in all the book income, and even that had not been enough; the reserve fund was melting like snow in springtime. We badly needed that \$10,000. "Maybe," some said, "the groups will never fully support the office. We can't let it shut down; it is far too vital. Yes, let's take the money. Let's take all such donations in the future. We're going to need them."

Humility • Self-supporting • Effectiveness

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



I want to be free.

The Sixth Tradition

An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.



We found that there are all kinds
of goals, motives and
ambitions. . .

. . . and the good
name of A.A. could be smeared!



The General Service Board



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.

SEVENTH STEP PRAYER

Higher Power, My inventory has shown me who I am, Yet I ask for Your help in admitting my wrongs to another person & to You. Assure me, & be with me, in this Step, for without this Step I cannot progress in my recovery. With Your help, I can do this, & I do it.

Delegate Presentation

JOIN DISTRICT 82 POTLUCK



Want the tea on
the General
Service
Conference?

BRING A DISH TO SHARE
IF YOU CAN

Keeper Sightings in Area



ANGLETON AA SPEAKER MEETING

DARRYL W.
25TH HOUR GROUP AA
Sobriety Date: 08/28/1993
Saturday, JULY 12TH
6PM



1224 East Mulberry Street

Sobriety fun at Surfside Beach

July 12th

11am to 4pm

AA meeting 3-4 pm

Bring your
own beach
chair, games,
drinks & a
snack to share



Hosted by Plantation Group

Surfside Free Beach 2nd entrance—

look for friends of Bill W. sign

Questions call Bobbie S. (979)417-8983

SOUTHEAST TEXAS AREA 67

AREA ASSEMBLY

COME HEAR THE DELEGATE'S
CONFERENCE REPORT!! 10:30AM

Participate!!

Be of Service!!

SATURDAY
JULY 26TH 9AM-5PM

GSR WORKSHOP 8AM

Have Fun!!

SAN JACINTO COLLEGE NORTH
5800 UVALDE RD - BLDG 12
HOUSTON, TX 77049

Be Part of !!

30TH MOUTH OF THE BRAZOS CONFERENCE MARCH 6-8, 2026

333 HWY 332, LAKE JACKSON, TX, 77566



SKIT

WORKSHOP

DOOR
PRIZES

GUEST
SPEAKERS

FOOD

FELLOWSHIP

FUN



Get Tickets: www.mouthofthebrazosconference.org



Does your group have an upcoming event?
Submit flyers to d82newsletter.com

Nautical Mile events further out



VANCOUVER 2025
Language of the Heart
Lenguaje del corazón
Le langage du cœur



**2025
A.A. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

Join your friends in Vancouver,
British Columbia, Canada
July 3-6

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE...

- ▶ Thursday Night Block Party
- ▶ Flag Ceremony
- ▶ Stadium Meetings
- ▶ Old Timers Meeting

AND MORE...including 250+ meetings,
hospitality suites, and a full slate of
panels and workshops

REGISTER NOW



Alcoholics Anonymous®

**THERE'S STILL
TIME TO
REGISTER!**

LEARN MORE
aa.org/international-convention 
2025ic@aa.org 

**78th Annual
Texas State Convention**
August 15-17, 2025 – Houston, TX
"Service is Love in Action"

AA Speakers
Donny M., Winnipeg, CA
Tammy Z., Spruce Pine, NC
Racy J. (GSO), NYC, NY
Wayne H., Frisco, TX
Hector H. (Spanish) El Salvador

Al-Anon
Magdalena E., Seattle, WA



Royal Sonesta Hotel
Houston Galleria Area
2222 W. Loop South
Houston, TX 77027
713-627-7600 (Direct)
800-766-3782 (Reservations)
\$149 Room Rate
Convention Code 081525TXSAA
Cut-off for \$149 rate is **7/18/2025**
Self-Parking: \$22.50/day

Convention Attractions

- 1st Timer Contest
- AA Meetings
- Archives Room
- Hospitality Suite
- Spanish Speakers & Workshop
- Spanish Translation (Bring your own earbuds)

*The famous Houston Galleria and numerous restaurants
within walking distance of the hotel!*

Website: txaaconvention.org | Email: info.houstontsc@gmail.com

PRE-REGISTRATION ENDS 8/1/2025

International Convention 2025 Update Countdown to Vancouver!

There's still time to [register](#) for the 2025 A.A. International Convention in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, July 3-6, 2025.

Join your A.A. friends and guests for a convention full of opportunities to enjoy fellowship and fun.

- Thursday night party, flag ceremony, the stadium Big Meetings, and the Saturday night Old Timers meeting featuring speakers with 50+ years of sobriety.
- More than 250 different meetings to choose from on a variety of topics — and marathon meetings for those who want to sleep after the convention is over!
- 20+ Hospitality Suites.

- Visit the GSO Archives display and the Carry the Message Pavilion. Take part in the Walk the Walk from the Vancouver Convention Centre to BC Place.

Volunteer opportunities still available! Get the latest information on volunteering here.

Register for convention today [here](#)! Housing options still available — check out our [Housing Resources](#) information [here](#).

Learn more about IC2025 at aa.org/international-convention

Unable to attend the 2025 International Convention in person? There are options for you to participate!

Register for a Virtual Session Program Track.

This is a two-day eight-session virtual program track for individual viewing at home. The sessions will be live-streamed as they take place and will not be available for purchase after the Convention. The cost is \$35 (USD).

You can use the Online Registration portal to sign up for the **Virtual Session Program Track**: aa.org/international-convention

Purchase the 2025 International Convention Three Big Meetings Video Product

An anonymity-protected video recording of the Three Big Meetings in the stadium will be available for viewing after the Convention. The cost is \$60 (USD). Once you purchase the video, you will receive instructions via email *after* the convention about how to view the anonymity-protected video recording.

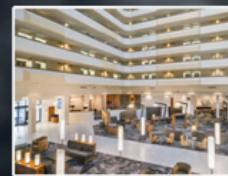
You can purchase the **Three Big Meetings Video Product** as an ancillary product through the Online Registration [portal](#). If you are already registered for the Convention, log in to your registration record via your email confirmation and add the video to your purchase.

Friday, July 4, 2025:	9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. PDT	A.A. Around the World Call Up I
Friday, July 4, 2025:	11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. PDT	Online Meetings, Are We Hiding Behind Our Screens?
Friday, July 4, 2025:	1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. PDT	Unity: The Most Cherished Quality
Friday, July 4, 2025:	3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. PDT	Living Sober
Saturday, July 5, 2025:	9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. PDT	A.A. Around the World Call Up II
Saturday, July 5, 2025:	11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. PDT	H.A.L.T.
Saturday, July 5, 2025:	1 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. PDT	Intensive Work with Other Alcoholics
Saturday, July 5, 2025:	3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. PDT	Celebrate Sobriety

There will be eight (8) 1.5-hour topic sessions to view. There is a half-hour break between sessions.



HANG TOGETHER OR DIE SEPARATELY
HOUSTON, TEXAS
OCTOBER 24TH - 26th 2025



Rooms just \$110 a night
FREE 24hr shuttle from Hobby Airport
FREE breakfast buffet with your stay
Book at:

TXSCYPAA44.ORG



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Meeting Schedule

City	Location	Group	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Angleton	124C E Mulberry St (across from H-E-B)	Angleton Group	12p O 6P O	12p C 6P O	12p C 6P O	12p C 6P O	12p C 6P O	12p C 6P O	12p O 6P O
Angleton	508 S Anderson	Grupo Fe	8p	8p	8p	8p	8p	8p	8p
Clute	14 N Brazosport Blvd	Free to Live	10a O						10a O
Clute	14 N Brazosport Blvd	Brockman Group		12p O	12p C	12p C	12p C	12p O	
Clute	14 N Brazosport Blvd	Beginners Group	6p C	6p O	6p C	6p C	6p C	6p C	6p O
Lake Jackson	100 Oak Dr South	New Beginnings for Women		12p C					
Lake Jackson	100 Oak Dr South	Clean Air			12p C		12p C		
Lake Jackson	200 Oyster Creek (St Timothy's)	Plantation Group		6:30p C			6:30p C		6:30p O
Bay City	2701 Avenue H (Trailer by Railroad)	Bay City Group	7p O	7p O	12p O	7p O	7p O	12p O	12p O 7p O
El Campo	708 E First St (Bible Truth Church)	Easy Does It Group		7p O			7p O		
Needville	16628 Hwy 36 (Creeside Christian Church)	Needville Group	6:30p O						
Sweeny	205 N Oak St (Sweeny Senior Citizen's Center)	Sweeny-Old Ocean Group		8p O		8p C			8p O
West Columbia	212 N 14th St (Warriors' Refuge)	Fresh Start Group				6:30p C			
West Columbia	117 E Clay St (St Mary's Episcopal Church)	West Columbia Group						8p O	



This District 82 schedule is intended to help you locate meetings within the District 82 boundaries of Area 67. It is subject to change without notice. For more information and schedule updates, contact Houston Intergroup at (713) 686-6300 or online at <http://www.aahouston.org> or download Meeting Guide app on your phone.

