

UNITY NEWSLETTER



April 2021

Volume 45; Issue 4

A.A. Oldtimers...On the Fourth Step

A.A. Grapevine, February 1945. Vol. 1 No. 9

"Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves."

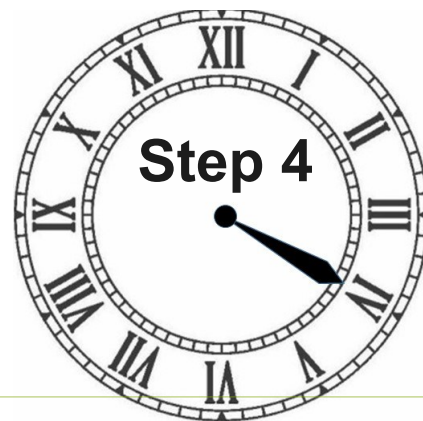
Since I cannot speak for anyone else, I'll have to make my experience with the 4th step autobiographical. Before A.A., I tried almost daily to stop drinking. I hated myself constantly. I could not understand why such a wonderful person as I was would do the things I did. I was in a constant state of mental turmoil and misery, and I knew that I could not handle liquor.

On coming into A.A., I had already taken the 1st step, but the 2nd and 3rd steps were discouraging, as I had no faith in a Higher Power. I tried to believe, and would have gladly forced myself to do so, were that possible, because I really wanted to succeed with the A.A. program. However, I skipped over these for the moment, as I was advised to do, and went on to the 4th step. . . .

I tried to make a "searching and fearless moral inventory," and discovered that it was difficult to push my pride and egotism aside sufficiently to get a better view of myself. My first attempt was neither searching nor fearless, but it was a very important start, and I developed and revised it over many months. During this time, I began to see myself as a person who was riddled with resentments, selfishly expecting life to treat me well; a super-sensitive person always inclined to feel hurt about everything that was not to my liking, and intolerant of any opinion differing from my own. I began to see that my thinking was based on fear and vague worries. I saw more. I realized that this very special person I had imagined myself to be could do nothing directly against the power of alcohol. But I began to see how the person I was beginning to understand could outflank old John and attack the cause of the drinking.

For years, I had wanted desperately to do something about my drinking. This, I knew, was impossible. But the 4th step taught me that I could do something about the cause of my drinking. By trying to do something about myself, I found that I did not need to drink. The 4th step showed me what was needed to be done. Without this knowledge, I doubt if sobriety would have been possible for me. The 4th step is just that important.

Richard S.



"Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves"

In This Issue

- Overview: Step 4 / Tradition 4.....p. 4
- Intergroup Financial Report p. 6
- Intergroup Meeting Minutes p. 8-9
- Bill W Presents the 12 Traditions in 1946 p. 10
- The Original Six Stepsp. 12

**East Tennessee Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous
Presents**

2021 Monthly Online Speaker Step Meetings



Second Saturday of the Month from 10:00am to 11:00am ET
(limited to first 100 attendees)

STEP 4, April 10th, Speaker: Rhonda M. – Morristown, TN

STEP 5, May 8th, Speaker: Madeliene P. – Happy Valley, OR

STEPS 6 & 7, June 12th, Speaker: David G. – Knoxville, TN

Zoom ID: 881 6025 4458

For More Information Contact the ETLAA Office Manager at 865-522-9667



EAST TENNESSEE INTERGROUP

New Website! New Online Store! New Office Hours!

<https://www.etiaa.org/>

**Our new
website
has
launched**



We have updated our website! Check it out! All online meetings are available with links by searching the site, on the app, or on the meeting PDF.

We now have an online store! It's still a work in progress but you can now shop online and have stuff shipped or ready for porch pickup at the Inter-group Office.

We have new hours! Please let us know if you'd like to do service work at the office. Shifts are 2 to 5 hours Monday- Saturday and can be weekly, bi-weekly, monthly or on call. Requirements are 1 year sobriety, a sponsor, and completion of the 12 Steps.

Monday 11a-4p

Tuesday 11a-4p

Wednesday 9a-4p

Thursday 11a-4p

Friday 11a-7p

Saturday 11a-4p

East Tennessee Intergroup of Alcoholics Anonymous – Gratitude With Service form

Return to: ETIAA; 9217 Park West Blvd #B3; Knoxville, TN 37923

865-522-9667

Manager@etiaa.org

www.etiaa.org

Date: _____ *First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ *Phone _____

*City _____ *State _____ *ZIP _____ Sex _____

E-mail address _____ Alternative Phone _____

* Required for listing in 12th Step List

ETIAA UNITY Newsletter Subscription / Renewal (Free subscription for email issues; \$12/year for mailed issues)

Volunteer Service Options

Check only those you are willing to commit time to:

12th Step List Volunteer

☐ Weeknights

☐ Weekends

☐ Weekdays

Phones Night & Weekend

☐ Weeknights

☐ Weekends

Committees of Interest

Check only those you are willing to serve on:

☐ Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community

☐ Intergroup Representative

☐ Office Worker

☐ Archives

☐ Outreach

☐ Spanish Liaison

Step Four: “Made a searching and moral inventory of ourselves.”

CREATION gave us instincts for a purpose. Without them we wouldn't be complete human beings. If men and women didn't exert themselves to be secure in their persons, made no effort to harvest food or construct shelter, there would be no survival. If they didn't reproduce, the earth wouldn't be populated. If there were no social instinct, if men cared nothing for the society of one another, there would be no society. So these desires—for the sex relation, for material and emotional security, and for companionship—are perfectly necessary and right, and surely God-given.

Yet these instincts, so necessary for our existence, often far exceed their proper functions. Powerfully, blindly, many times subtly, they drive us, dominate us, and insist upon ruling our lives.

Fourth Step Prayer

Dear God, it is I who has made my life a mess. I have done it, but I cannot undo it. My mistakes are mine and I will begin a searching and fearless moral inventory. I will write down my wrongs. But I will also include that which is good. I pray for the strength to complete this task.



Tradition Four (long form):

With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority other than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.

Tradition Four Checklist:

1. Do I insist that there are only a few right ways of doing things in AA?
2. Does my group always consider the welfare of the rest of AA? Of nearby groups? Of Loners in Alaska? Of Internationalists miles from port? Of a group in Rome or El Salvador?
3. Do I put down other members' behavior when it is different from mine, or do I learn from it?
4. Do I always bear in mind that, to those outsiders who know I am in AA, I may to some extent represent our entire beloved Fellowship?
5. Am I willing to help a newcomer go to any lengths—his lengths, not mine—to stay sober?
6. Do I share my knowledge of AA tools with other members who may not have heard of them?



Concept IV and Checklist: At all responsible levels, we ought to maintain a traditional “Right of Participation,” allowing a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

- Do we understand the spiritual principles underlying the “Right of Participation”?
- What does “in reasonable proportion” mean? Do we understand when it is appropriate for A.A. paid staff to have a vote at the General Service Conference or in our local service structure?
- Do we expect that, because we are A.A. members, we should be allowed to vote at any group, even if we are not active members of that group?

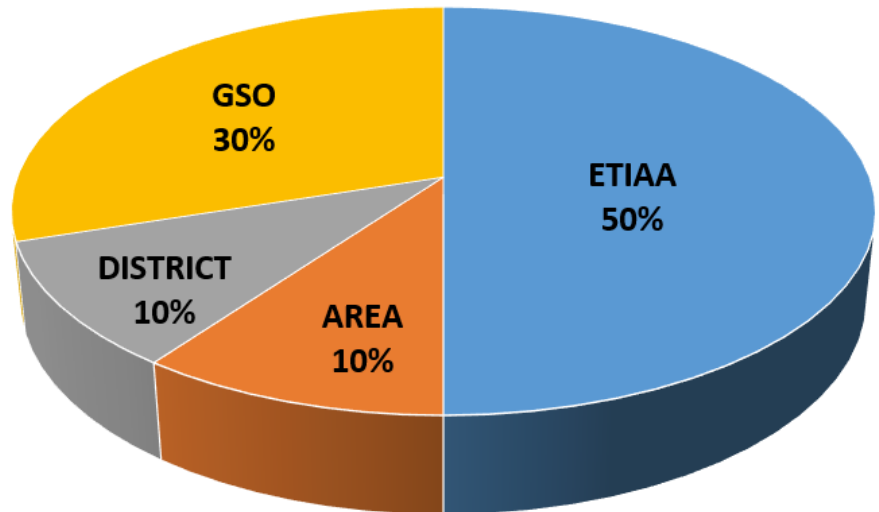
7TH TRADITION SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTIONS

How can groups participate?

To help support AA's essential services, the General Service Conference suggests that individual groups, through an informed group conscience, adopt a specific contribution plan tailored to meet the group's financial situation. Once the basic group expenses have been taken care of (for example, rent, refreshments, AA literature, Grapevine literature, local meeting lists, GSR travel expenses to attend service functions) and a "prudent reserve" has been set aside to cover any emergency contingencies that might arise, the group may decide to further carry the message by sending money to the following AA service entities.

- The local district, which communicates directly with the groups, providing the district group conscience for the area assemblies and serving as a link between the area delegates and the GSRs.
- The area committee, which coordinates vital AA activities over a broad geographic area, sends a delegate to the annual General Service Conference, holds area assemblies to determine the needs of the Fellowship, and provides information at all levels of service.
- The local intergroup or central office, which may provide phone service for Twelfth Step calls and other inquiries, coordination of group activities, AA literature sales, institutions work, public information, and cooperation with the professional community activities.
- AA's General Service Office, which functions as a storehouse of AA information, communicating with members and groups around the world, publishes AA literature, and supplies information and experience to professionals and others interested in AA.

[Self-Support—Where Money and Spirituality Mix. Go to: www.aa.org/assets/en_US/f-3_selfsupport.pdf]



Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

Contribution Addresses

**ETIAA East Tennessee
Intergroup of AA**
9217 Park West Blvd #B3
Knoxville, TN 37923
865-522-9667 www.etiaa.org

New ways to donate:

**Paypal Manager@etiaa.org or
865-320-8649**

**Zelle Manager@etiaa.org or
865-320-8649**

Venmo @ETIAA

General Service Office
Grand Central Station
P.O. Box 459
New York, NY 10163
www.aa.org

The GSO prefers online contributions

Area 64 Assembly
2500 Murfreesboro Pike
Suite 105 Box 235
Nashville, TN 37217
www.area64assembly.org

District 1 Treasurer
Richard Ellis
1302 Chestnut St.
Kingsport, TN 376604

District 2 Treasurer
PO BOX 1872
Johnson City, TN 37605

District 3 Treasurer
John H.
1466 Darbee Dr.
Morristown, TN 37814

District 4 Treasurer
PO Box 264
Alcoa, TN 37701

District 6 Treasurer
Richard B.
105 Mariner Point
Clinton, TN 37716

NEW ADDRESS

AA District 50/51 Treasurer
9217 Park West Blvd
Suite B-3 (ETIAA)
Knoxville, TN 37923

Please mail all District 50/51 donations to the Intergroup Office. Please specify on the check AND on the outside of the envelope that it is for district 50/51. Electronic donations can be made with Venmo at: @Sandra—Brown-289

Please be sure to include your Group Name and Number.

Intergroup Financial / Contributions Report

GROUPS DONATING	Jul 20—		GROUPS DONATING	Jul 20—	
	Feb 21	Feb 21		Feb 21	Feb 21
1ST THINGS 1ST KNOXVILLE 719412	100.00	2,754.73	MORRISTOWN GROUP	0.00	100.00
4-WAY GROUP	0.00	150.00	NEW BEGINNING- LOUDON	0.00	50.00
4TH DIMENSION	0.00	543.25	NEW PATH	0.00	50.00
BACK TO BASICS- OAK RIDGE	50.00	350.00	NORRIS CLINTON GROUP	0.00	150.00
BIG BOOK RECOVERY	0.00	170.00	NORTH GATLINBURG 157790	250.25	397.00
BLOUNT COUNTY GROUP	100.00	350.00	ONLINE LUNCH BUNCH	25.88	25.88
BREAKFAST BUNCH GREENEVILLE	0.00	110.00	OUR PRIMARY PURPOSE 716038	42.00	42.00
COLONIAL GROUP	0.00	275.00	Paypal	0.00	8.00
COLONIAL HEIGHTS 99658/120932	0.00	105.00	PHOENIX GROUP	0.00	1,408.00
CONCORD GROUP	0.00	110.50	PRIMARY PURPOSE- OAK RIDGE	0.00	250.00
CONTRIBUTION JAR	20.00	85.45	PRIME TIME	360.00	360.00
COOKIE GROUP	0.00	360.00	RIVERSIDE GROUP	678.73	678.73
COVER TO COVER	0.00	120.00	ROANE COUNTY UNITY 112631	50.00	150.00
DANDRIDGE UNITY 638213	0.00	86.00	SAT. MORNING BIG BOOK STUDY	200.00	1,139.05
DISTRICT 50/51	0.00	0.00	SEEKERS JONESBOROUGH 66383	0.00	20.00
DOWN BY THE RIVER 101834	0.00	400.00	SERENITY IMPROVEMENT	0.00	600.00
FOUNTAIN CITY SERENITY	0.00	168.08	SERENITY SISTERS 630722	0.00	1,620.79
FREE AT LAST 712012	0.00	36.00	SEYMOUR SHARING	0.00	716.89
GROUP WITH NO NAME	0.00	550.00	SOBER PRIDE	0.00	655.03
HAPPY HOUR	100.00	1,473.00	SOBRIETY SOCIETY- SO-SO 709581	0.00	550.00
HAPPY, JOYOUS AND FREE	0.00	50.00	SPIRITUAL PROGRESS	0.00	100.00
HIGH NOON ROGERSVILLE 713957	0.00	30.00	STEPS FORWARD	0.00	165.00
HIGH NOONERS-P40	0.00	400.00	SUNDAYS AT 7-KNOXVILLE	0.00	130.00
Individual	84.29	4,126.03	TCYPAA	10.00	70.00
KEEP LEANING FORWARD	0.00	115.00	TELLICO VILLAGE	50.00	200.00
KODAK HWY 66	0.00	150.00	TENNESSEE GROUP 723519	0.00	591.20
LAFOLLETTE-THERE IS HOPE	20.00	160.00	TRI-STATE GROUP-HARROGATE	0.00	200.00
LUNCH BUNCH- GREENEVILLE	68.03	342.26	TURNIP PATCH	0.00	126.03
MEMORIAL RECOVERY 112566	0.00	50.00	UNKNOWN GROUP	0.00	223.82
MONDAY NIGHT MEN'S 112569	0.00	150.00	Venmo	0.00	39.00
			WEST KNOXVILLE GROUP	0.00	102.30
			TOTALS	2,209.18	24,689.02

East Tennessee Intergroup of AA fiscal year is July 1 -June 30

DONATIONS TO DISTRICT 50/51

Mail all District 50/51 donations to the Intergroup Office. Please make sure you are specifying on the check AND on the outside of the envelope that is for District. 50/51.

District 50/51; C/O. East TN Intergroup; 9217 Park West Boulevard #B3; Knoxville, TN 37923

Make checks out to District5051. This will help the office staff maintain separation between Intergroup and District donations.

Also, donations can accepted electronically with Venmo at: @Sandra—Brown-289

Thank you for your support! Also, if you have questions or concerns, the District 50/51 treasurer may be contacted at 865.599.5288. Initially, texting will be the fastest option for contact.

Unity Newsletter

is a monthly publication of East Tennessee Intergroup about, by and for members of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). Opinions herein are not to be attributed to AA. Except when indicated, this publication does not imply endorsement by either AA or the Newsletter. Delegates to the General Service Conference on April 24, 1972 agreed that the use of full names and addresses could improve communication within the Fellowship. Consequently, we may use full names for AA service members. To ensure anonymity, it is requested that the Newsletter be kept within the Fellowship.

Fellowship.

Submissions

Is your group celebrating Birthdays/Anniversaries? Are you? Do you have AA-related questions or myths that Intergroup of East Tennessee Alcoholics Anonymous (ETIAA) can answer for you? Is there an "In Memory" group member to be recognized?

We encourage all appropriate submissions by sending them to: Newsletter Coordinator, managr@etiaa.org

Around East Tennessee

AA Birthdays:

No group name given:

Greg 3 years 2/19/2018

Monday Night Men's Group; Erin Presbyterian Church:

Joe C. 32years

Please use the following format: **first full name; last name initial; birthday month; number of years sober.**



March 2021 Intergroup Meeting Minutes

Open with Serenity Prayer and monthly Tradition at 6:30.

Present via Zoom: - Tami D, Rebekah R., Fawn L., Greg S., Marian G., Susi M., Kellie M., Beth C., Carole W., SuZanne A., Krista S., Ken L., Rhonda M., Wesley.

Groups Represented: Roamers Group, Happy Destiny II, Happy Hour Group, Morristown Group, So -So Group.

Previous minutes were accepted as is motion by Greg S., seconded by Fawn L., all in favor.

Manager's Report – Rebekah R.

- Welcome new IGRs – Rebekah welcomed new reps to the meeting
- Remind – Rebekah again asked for anyone wanting to be added to the Remind App for staying up-to-date with announcements and updates to add their contact information in the Zoom chat box.
- Online Store – Rebekah reported still needs some work. There are some bugs with the process and she is working on resolution. Online orders are proving to be larger orders. Initially, the inventory numbers for any given product were not included in the online store therefore orders were being placed for items that are out of stock. She is working on adding the inventory numbers to the online store to ensure available quantities are correct.
- Pricing Update – pricing is on track versus last year's numbers. February of 2020 vs. February 2021 showing slight variance.
- Meeting Changes Update – Barb taking over. Changes to the meetings are also being tracked in the event incorrect information being provided, however there have been only a few issues with this.
- Website – updates to the new website are going well. Ran into an issue with adding recurring events however the Website committee is working on it.
- New Book – new book titled 'Visual History of AA' arrived from GSO and is on sale.
- New Hours Update – new hours seem to be going well.
- GSO order issues – GSO having some issues with order fulfillment and invoicing/payments. Rebekah reported GSO shipments not matching billing and that GSO is working to resolve while she has sorted out any issues with Intergroup.
- Pre-Conference Report – District 50/51 had Pre-Conference report last weekend. Rebekah stated there is a motion to change the pie chart of suggested donation percentages and if passed this would impact Intergroup as this is how most contributions are calculated.
- Rebekah on Vacation – Rebekah advised she will be on vacation from 04/04-04/14/2021. She asked if anyone would be willing to fill in as she will not be available at all during this time. Rhonda M. stated she would be willing to monitor emails for Intergroup.

Treasurer's Report – Fawn L.

- Profit and Loss – February net income \$84.68. Year to date net income \$8272.08.
- February contributions \$2209.18.
- Issues with Payables due to GSO billing irregularities, has now been resolved and no additional monies due outstanding to GSO.
- Motion to accept Treasurer's report by Rebekah R., seconded by Greg S., all in favor.

March 2021 Intergroup Meeting Minutes (Cont.)

Hotline – Susi M.

- Jack added to the Hotline and all shifts going well.
- Susi and Rebekah are taping a Hotline Workshop on 04/28/21 at 5:30 (no faces will be recorded). The workshop will be posted to the ETIAA YouTube channel for volunteers to watch at their convenience.

Service Workers – Greg S.:

- Greg reported there are 4 new office volunteers all trained and currently working in the office.
- Now have two volunteers working the Saturday shift and would like two volunteers for all shifts.
- Have three more people interested in working in the office.
- Greg advised he and Rebekah are taping a service worker workshop on 04/21/21 at 5:30. This will be recorded (without faces) and added to the ETIAA YouTube channel for volunteers to watch as convenient.

Archives – open

Website – Sterling – not present

Accessibilities – Carole W.

- Carole stated she has been doing research on accessibilities and has run across some studies on the subject and would like to do an article on accessibilities for the Newsletter.

Spanish Liaison – open

CPC/PI – open

Treatment – Beth C.

- Beth stated Cornerstone is allowing the TN Group to resume a meeting at their facility however all who attend must have had a COVID-19 vaccine.
- District 50/51 has a new chairperson for Treatment.

Corrections – Marian G.

- Marian advised the Richard L. Bean Juvenile Detention Facility had asked for some Big Books to use with their population. Marian met with a representative from the facility and brought the requested literature. Marian also advised a meeting could be taken into the facility and is waiting to hear back from them.
- All other facilities still on lockdown.

Outreach - open

Events – SuZanne A. – not present

- SuZanne reported the Step 3 workshop was a success, there were 29 attendees. Thanks to all who attended.

Mobile Intergroup – open

Old Business:

New Business:

- Workplace Violence Prevention Policy - Rebekah obtained the policy from the Honolulu Intergroup office and she shared the policy for all to review. She proposed the policy be adopted and signed by all service volunteers. Motion to accept Fawn L., seconded by Greg S., all in favor.

Motion to adjourn by SuZanne A. and seconded by Kellie M. at 7:43 pm. All in favor.

Next meeting to be held Monday April 19th at 6:30 pm.

Twelve Suggested Points of AA Tradition

by Bill W. Grapevine, April 1946

Bill W's first General Presentation of the Traditions to the Groups

Nobody invented Alcoholics Anonymous. It grew. Trial and error has produced a rich experience. Little by little we have been adopting the lessons of that experience, first as policy and then as Tradition. That process still goes on and we hope it never stops. Should we ever harden too much, the letter might crush the spirit. We could victimize ourselves by petty rules and prohibitions; we could imagine that we had said the last word. We might even be asking alcoholics to accept our rigid ideas or stay away. We never stifle progress like that!

Yet the lessons of our experience count for a great deal -- a very great deal, we are each convinced. The first written record of AA experience was the book "Alcoholics Anonymous." It was addressed to the heart of our foremost problem -- release from the alcohol obsession. It contained personal experiences of drinking and recovery and a statement of those divine but ancient principles, which have brought us a miraculous regeneration. Since publication of "Alcoholics Anonymous" in 1939 we have grown from 100 to 24,000 members. Seven years have passed; seven years, of vast experience with our next greatest undertaking -- the problem of living and working together. This is today our main concern. If we can succeed in this adventure -- and keep succeeding -- then, and only then, will our future be secure.

Since personal calamity holds us in bondage no more, our most challenging concern has become the future of Alcoholics Anonymous; how to preserve among us AAs such a powerful unity that neither weakness of persons nor the strain and strife of these troubled times can harm our common cause. We know that Alcoholics Anonymous must continue to live. Else, save few exceptions, we and our fellow alcoholics throughout the world will surely resume the hopeless journey to oblivion.

Almost any AA can tell you what our group problems are. Fundamentally they have to do with our relations, one with the other, and with the world outside. They involve relations of the AA to the group, the relation of the group to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, and the place of Alcoholics Anonymous in that troubled sea called modern society, where all of humankind must presently shipwreck or find haven. Terribly relevant is the problem of our basic structure and our attitude toward those ever pressing questions of leadership, money, and authority. The future way well depend on how we feel and act about things that are controversial and how we regard our public relations. Our final destiny will surely hang upon what we presently decide to do with these danger-fraught issues!

Now comes the crux of our discussion. It is this: Have we yet acquired sufficient experience to state clear-cut policies on these, our chief concerns? Can we now declare general principles which could grow into vital Traditions -- Traditions sustained in the heart of each AA by his own deep conviction and by the common consent of his fellows? That is the question. Though full answers to all our perplexities may never be found, I'm sure we have come at least to a vantage point whence we can discern the main outlines of a body of Tradition; which, God willing, can stand as an effective guard against all the ravages of time and circumstance.

Acting upon the persistent urge of old AA friends, (Ed. Note - Particularly Earl T. from Chicago) and upon the conviction that general agreement and consent between our members is now possible, I shall venture to place in words these suggestions for an Alcoholics Anonymous Tradition of Relations -- Twelve Points to Assure Our Future.

Our AA experience has taught us that:

1. Each member of Alcoholics Anonymous is but a small part of a great whole. AA must continue to live or most of us will surely die. Hence our common welfare comes first. But individual welfare follows close afterward.
2. For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority -- a loving God as he may express himself in our group conscience.
3. Our membership ought to include all who suffer alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought AA membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an AA group.

4. With respect to its own affairs, each AA group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect AA as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the Alcoholic Foundation [now the General Service Board]. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.

5. Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose -- that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

6. 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 AA should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An AA group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to AA such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. The management of these special facilities should be the sole responsibility of those people, whether AAs or not, who financially support them. For our clubs, we prefer AA managers. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside AA -- and medically supervised. An AA group may cooperate with anyone, but should bind itself to no one.

7. The AA groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous; that acceptance of large gifts from any source or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever is usually unwise. Then, too, we view with much concern those AA treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated AA purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fee or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those full-time services for which we might otherwise have to engage nonalcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But personal Twelfth Step work is never to be paid for.

9. Each AA group needs the least possible organization. Rotating leadership is usually the best. The small group may elect its secretary, the larger group its rotating committee, and the groups of a large metropolitan area their central committee, which often employs a full time secretary. The trustees of the Alcoholic Foundation are, in effect, our general service committee. They are the custodians of our AA Tradition and the receivers of voluntary AA contributions by which they maintain AA general Headquarters and our general secretary at New York. They are authorized by the groups to handle our overall public relations and they guarantee the integrity of our principal publication, the AA Grapevine. All such representatives are to be guided in the spirit of service, for true leaders in AA are but trusted and experienced servants of the whole. They derive no real authority from their titles. Universal respect is the key to their usefulness.

10. No AA group or members should ever, in such a way as to implicate AA, 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.

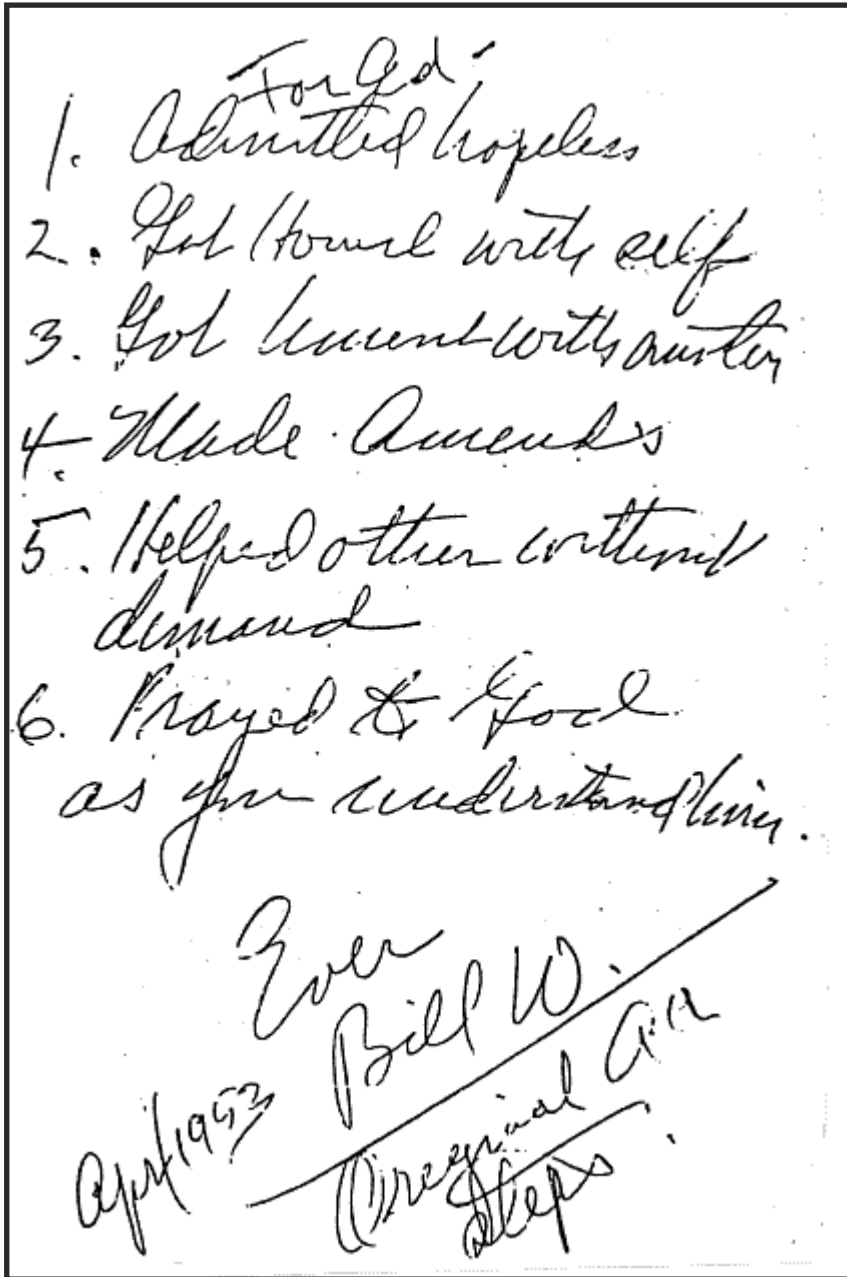
11. Our relations with the outside world should be characterized by modesty and anonymity. We think AA ought to avoid sensational advertising. Our public relations should be guided by the principle of attraction rather than promotion. There is never need to praise ourselves. We feel it better to let our friends recommend us.

12. And finally, we of Alcoholics Anonymous believe that the principle of anonymity has an immense spiritual significance. It reminds us that we are to place principles before personalities; that we are actually to practice a truly humble modesty. This to the end that our great blessings may never spoil us; that we shall forever live in thankful contemplation of him who presides over us all.

May it be urged that while these principles have been stated in rather positive language they are still only suggestions for our future. We of Alcoholics Anonymous have never enthusiastically responded to any assumption of personal authority. Perhaps it is well for AA that this is true. So I offer these suggestions neither as one man's dictum nor as a creed of any kind, but rather as a first attempt to portray that group ideal toward which we have assuredly been led by a Higher Power these ten years past.

Original Six Steps

From "Bill Wilson and how the A.A message reached the world":



The picture to the left is Bill Wilson's original note on writing the steps autographed by him.

1. We admitted that we were licked, that we were powerless over alcohol.
2. We made a moral inventory of our defects or sins.
3. We confessed or shared our shortcomings with another person in confidence.
4. We made restitution to all those we had harmed by our drinking.
5. We tried to help other alcoholics, with no thought of reward in money or prestige.
6. We prayed to whatever God we thought there was for power to practice these precepts.

Although those steps had helped in the recovery of New York and Akron alcoholics, Bill felt the program was still not definitive. "Maybe our six chunks of truth should be broken up into smaller pieces," he said. "Thus we could better get the distant reader over the barrel, and at the same time we might be able to broaden and deepen the spiritual implications of our whole presentation." — Pass It On®, p.197



PRICE CHANGES

Starting 1st November 2020 your local intergroup office is offering reduced pricing on the following items

BRONZE MEDALLIONS - \$1.00

HARD BACK BIG BOOK - \$9.50

PRICE REDUCTION ON GRAPEVINE

PRICE REDUCTION ON GENERAL SERVICE

East Tennessee Intergroup Office
*Some items may increase in price

"ALCOHOL MAY INTENSIFY THE EFFECTS OF THIS MEDICATION"



I NEVER KNOW IF THIS IS A WARNING OR A SUGGESTION.

On the lighter side....



I had a great time last night!...at least that's what the police report says

ANOTHER GREAT ACTOR WHO WASTED HIS LIFE ON DRUGS AND ALCOHOL





GIVE THE GIFT OF
RECOVERY

Grateful?

Help Carry The Message
By Gifting An AA Grapevine/
La Viña Subscription

We can't reach our members behind the walls right now, but our message of hope and recovery can. These are some actual quotes from A.A. members in prison who have received a "Carry the message" subscription

“ Thank you to those who care enough to help us in here. We're trying so hard to stay sober ”

“ I'm writing from my prison cell to thank the Grapevine staff and all those members who contribute to the "Carry the Message" project ”

“ So many [stories] have touched my heart and given me hope ... I don't ever want this subscription to end ”

“ Seeing the warm welcoming spaces being used as A.A. sanctuaries for people in recovery is so heartwarming. This, my friend, is what keeps me going and gives me hope ”

2021
CARRY THE
MESSAGE
PROJECT

“ I'm sitting here in prison and I have 75 days sober today. Thank you so much for Grapevine ”

Click [HERE](#) to learn more

**EAST
TENNESSEE
INTERGROUP
UNITY
NEWSLETTER**

**9217 Park West Blvd #B3
Knoxville, TN 37923**

**24/7 HOTLINE
865-522-9667
Manager@etiaa.org
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PLACE
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If you would like the newsletter mailed to your home, please fill out the form to the right and mail it to the address shown below. Include \$12.00 for a one-year subscription to cover postage.

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April 2021



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