



DISTRICT 81

JULY 2024



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Step 7:

Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

Tradition 7:

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

Concept 7:

The Charter and Bylaws of the General Service Board are legal instruments, empowering the trustees to manage and conduct world service affairs. The Conference Charter is not a legal document; it relies upon tradition and the A.A. purse for final effectiveness.

**WHEN ANYONE, ANYWHERE, REACHES
OUT FOR HELP; I WANT THE HAND OF
AA ALWAYS TO BE THERE. AND FOR
THAT: I AM RESPONSIBLE.**

UPCOMING EVENTS & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

July 10: District 81 meeting 7pm at Kelley's in La Marque 4604 Gulf Fwy, La Marque, TX 77568

July 13: SETA Assembly beginning at 9am at San Jacinto College North, 5800 Uvalde Rd. Houston, Texas 77049

July 16: Grapevine Committee meeting 5:30pm via Google Meets <https://meet.google.com/ixo-apfs-fdf>

July 17: Website Committee meeting 6pm online; send email to john.a@aa-seta.org to be added to the Google Meet invite.

July 17: Literature Committee meeting 7:30pm in Room E at the Bay Area Club, 2111 Webster St, League City, TX 77573

July 22: Newsletter Committee meeting 5pm in the cafe area of the Friendswood Public Library, 416 S Friendswood Dr, Friendswood, TX 77546

July 25: PI/CPC Committee meeting 4:45pm via Google Meets <https://meet.google.com/csw-pwgf-gyp>

July 26: Archives Committee meeting 6pm [new time!] at the Alvin Taylor Street Club, 204 S Taylor Street, Alvin, TX 77511

July 31: Finance & Budget meeting 6:30pm at Jason's Deli in League City, 2755 Gulf Fwy S, League City, TX 77573

July 31: Treatment Facilities Committee meeting 6:30pm via Zoom: 868-5564-9879; passcode: 06-10-1935

August 3: Step 11 Workshop 1pm - 4pm at the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 4613 State Hwy 3, Dickinson, TX 77539; see flyer!

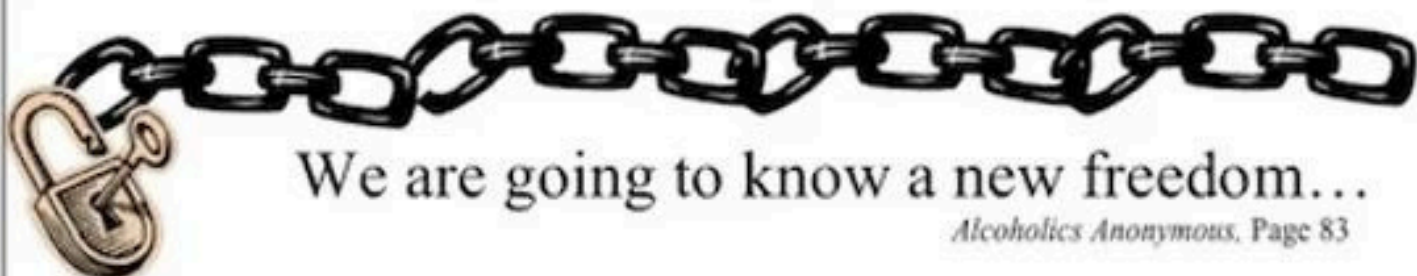
August 7: District 81 meeting 7pm at Kelley's in La Marque 4604 Gulf Fwy, La Marque, TX 77568

September 6-8: Area 67 Correctional Facilities Conference 15700 John F Kennedy Blvd, Houston, TX 77032; see flyer!

October 11-13: SWRAARSA at the Renaissance Dallas Richardson Hotel, 900 E Lookout Drive, Richardson, TX 75082; see flyer!

January 3-5, 2025: SETA Convention at the Royal Sonesta Hotel 2222 W Loop S, Houston, TX 77027; see flyer!





We are going to know a new freedom...

Alcoholics Anonymous, Page 83

Southeast Texas Area 67 Correctional Facilities Conference September 6, 7, and 8, 2024

TDCJ Orientation

CF Professional Panel

Volunteer Panel

**INSIDE
SPEAKER**

English & Spanish

Speakers:

Lisa L. Friendswood, TX

Darryl H. League City, TX.

Adrian M. Houston Tx

Jose R. San Antonio

Inside Speaker TDCJ

Registration \$10.00

Friday & Saturday Night
Ice Cream Socials

Saturday Night Banquet

Hospitality Room and Great
Fellowship



HOTEL

Sheraton North Houston at IAH, 15700 JFK Boulevard, Houston, TX 77032

Limited rooms are available, so please reserve your rooms early.

Mention you are attending the SETA CFC 2024 to receive the \$89 per night

All reservations must be made by **August 16th** through the reservations department by calling
(281) 442-5100

Link: <https://www.marriott.com/events/start.mi?id=1706723674118&key=GRP>

Mail the form and make check payable to:

SETA CFC 2024 CONFERENCE

PO Box 925241 Houston, TX 77292-5241

Link: <https://www.setacfcconference.net>



Registration

For Further Info:

call-(713) 435-9553 Sarah

cfc@aa-seta.org

Name(s) _____

Badge Name _____

Badge Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email: _____

Professional: State County Other

Volunteers: AA Alanon Other

People _____ @ \$10.00 = _____

Saturday Banquet _____ @ \$50.00 = _____

Coffee _____ @ \$ 5.00 = _____

Please accept my donation of = _____

Total = _____

Unleash Your "Spiritual Gangsta"

A Guide to Working Step 11

District 81 Workshop Committee
Saturday, August 3rd from 1pm - 4pm

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
4613 State Hwy 3, Dickinson, TX 77539

Join us as we explore what AA Literature says about Step 11 and experience different ways to practice prayer and meditation.



Join us for a

NEW OPEN MEETING

TUESDAY & THURSDAY | 12045 15th St,
8:30-9:30 AM | Santa Fe, TX 77510

NEW DOOR

At Open Meetings, ALL ARE WELCOME. Including newcomers, existing members, and visitors who are seeking information about Alcoholics Anonymous.



Tuesday Meetings - Literature
Thursday Meetings - Discussion



2nd Thursday of the Month - Speaker
Last Thursday of the Month - Birthday Meeting

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL AA SERVICE ASSEMBLY

Southwest Region **SWRAASA 2024** Southwest Region

Service: Vital To Our Growth

Hosted by
Northeast Texas, Area 65
October 11th, 12th, 13th
\$20 Registration

Visit us at:
www.swraasa2024.org

For Questions: Registration@swraasa2024.org

RICHARDSON, TEXAS
Renaissance Dallas Richardson Hotel
900 E Lookout Drive
Richardson, TX 75082
(972) 367.2000
Hotel block opens November 2023

REGISTER HERE

SCAN ME

Registration Cut Off Date: 09/27/2024

SOUTH EAST TEXAS AREA 67
presents

HAPPY 2025 JOUJOUS & Free

JANUARY 3-5, 2025
AT THE ROYAL SONESTA HOTEL - HOUSTON

FEATURING:

RICK W - GRAPEVINE TX	TERESA J - ALBUQUERQUE NM	JUDITH R - BISMARCK ND	SHAWN G - DES MOINES IA
JIM W - CANCUN, QR, MX	KARINA C - PHOENIX, NY	MAGDA D - RICHMOND TX	SEVI M - HUMBLE TX
KATIE B - ABERDEEN SD	MATT C - HUTTO TX	DEBORAH D - HOUSTON TX	ROSIE M - HUMBLE TX
			ELIZABETH H - LEAGUE CITY TX

AGENDA TO INCLUDE MULTIPLE STAGES

SPAN & ENG WORKSHOPS	YPAA SPEAKERS	80'S DANCE PARTY
ASK THE OLD-TIMERS	AL-ANON	MARATHON MEETINGS
AA HISTORIAN	COMMITTEE SHOWCASE	ICE CREAM SOCIAL

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON
REGISTRATION, SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES
AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS VISIT:

TICKETS:
\$30 - PRESALE (ENDS 12/13/24)
\$35 - AT THE DOOR

SETACONVENTION.ORG

Mail to: PO Box 863582, Plano, TX 75086
Print Neatly

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Scholarship Contribution: _____

Make Checks Payable To: Northeast TX Area SWRAASA 2024

"LET'S TALK RECOVERY"

WITH KATHLEEN H. AND GUEST, JOHN M.

1. *What is your sobriety date?*
February 28, 1998

2. *What is your Home Group?*
Live at 5. Meets at 5:00 pm every day at the Bay Area Club.

3. *You sponsor a lot of men. What is the most rewarding part of sponsorship?*
Seeing the "God" light come on in a newcomer.

4. *You bring AA meetings into jails. What is that like?*
I've been bringing meetings into the jails for approximately eight years. I do it because I came to AA through the jails.

In the jails, AA is different. It's not a typical meeting. We don't have topics. There's a guard present. Some of the men are just there to get out of their cell for an hour. Many have been in jail before.

In the meetings, I share my experience, strength and hope with the men. I share what it was like, what happened, and what it is like now.

I bring AA literature. I tell the men that the answers are in the literature. I give them phone numbers to call when they get out. I connect them to my home group, Live at 5.

Going to the jails is important to me because it reminds me of where I came from and where I'll go without sobriety.

5. *You are active on a text thread every morning with men in the Program. How does the thread keep men sober?*
I post daily readings from the "Big Book: and the "Twelve and Twelve." We discuss the readings on the thread.

6. *You've been sober a long time. What do you do every day to stay sober?*
I pray, read, and meditate. I talk to or text another alcoholic. I do service, not always AA. I sponsor men and I am sponsored.

7. *Your faith is an important part of your program. How has your concept of God changed/grown over the years?*

At first, my understanding of God was shallow, narrow-minded, and judgmental. I have grown to be more open and inclusive. I want to learn about all faiths.

8. *During meetings, you have mentioned Al-Anon. How has Al-Anon helped you in your recovery?*

Any person sponsoring alcoholics qualifies for Al-Anon. My family was riddled with alcoholism. I've been around Al-Anon for about ten years. I have been "working" it about six years.

9. *Final thoughts?*

Trust God. Clean House. Work with others.

I ask myself:

"What step am I working on?"

"Where is God?"

"Who am I helping?"

"What service am I doing?"

"What have I done to grow spiritually today?"

"Thank you God."

-Kathleen H.

My sobriety date is May 19, 2005. My home group is Live at Five that meets at 5:00 pm at the Bay Area Club. I am a writer and have published articles in the AA Grapevine. "Let's talk Recovery" will be a regular column in the Newsletter, where I will interview men and women with long-term sobriety about their experience, strength, and hope to inspire the newcomer and other alcoholics.

WHERE AND HOW DID EBBY T. GET THE MESSAGE THAT HE TOOK TO BILL W.?

Most of us know about the meeting of Ebby T. and Bill W. However, I, like others, have always been curious about how Ebby T. got involved with the Oxford Groups. The following is from a book by Joe Mc Q (Of Joe & Charlie's Big Book Studies) that gives a history of what happened to a certain American businessman that had ability, good sense, and high character, but could not stay sober. His name was Rowland Hazard. The following is a chain of events to lead up to the meeting of Roland H., Ebby T., and then Bill W.

Roland Hazard was a New York investment banker suffering from alcoholism and sought help from the well-known psychologist Dr. Carl Jung. (See pages 26 and 27 of AA Big Book). Dr. Jung told Rowland there might be hope he could stay sober – if he could have a personality change through a spiritual experience. Rowland returned to New York and found an Oxford Group, where he sought a spiritual experience. The Oxford Groups were informal fellowships of people from any and all religions who were not satisfied with their spiritual progress. Anyone could join and work through the tenets of the Group to get some spiritual growth and change their lives. The groups weren't particularly focused on the problem of alcoholism.

Frank Buchman, a Lutheran minister, was the originator of the Oxford Groups. After having an argument with board members of a boy's school in Philadelphia, Frank got mad, resigned, and left the USA to travel in Europe. In England in 1908, he went to a church meeting one night and heard a woman, Jessie Penn–Lewis, preach on resentments and forgiveness. And he was greatly moved by what he had heard.

Frank, having resentment against the six board members of the Philadelphia boy's school, went back to his room that night and wrote the board members a letter asking for their forgiveness. He later said that this action produced a sudden change in his life, an instant change.

Frank never heard back from the board members, but he began to reflect on how his life was tremendously improved. He asked himself, how did that happen? What did I do to bring that about? If I can understand what I did, I can renew myself in any way I want to. Better than that, I can show someone else how to do it.

As he sought to understand his experience, Frank listed the things he had done: (1) he had surrendered, (2) he had admitted his sins, (3) he had shared and confessed, (4) he had made restitution, and (5) he had asked for God's guidance.

Frank Buchman was immediately successful. People who followed the procedure were changed. The Oxford Groups grew and spread. Realizing that these five basic principles were the foundation of Christianity (and of other religions worldwide), Frank called his movement "First-Century Christian Fellowship".

So, when Rowland Hazard returned to New York after consulting Dr. Jung in Switzerland, he joined the Oxford Groups and started practicing these principles. Doing so produced in him

the change and the spiritual experience he sought- and as a result he stayed sober until he died.

As Rowland found sobriety, he heard that an old friend, Ebby Thatcher, was about to be committed to a mental institution for his alcoholism. Rowland and a couple of his Oxford Group members rescued Ebby from court and passed on the basic principles to Ebby in the next couple of weeks. Rowland also took Ebby to Reverend Sam Shoemaker's Calvary Mission in New York City, where they worked with people suffering from alcoholism. This became a very important part of Ebby's recovery.

Most of us pretty much know what happened from here. Ebby took the message to Bill, Bill took the message to Dr. Bob, and Bill W. and Dr. Bob took the message to Bill D., who became AA member no 3.

I found the above information very interesting because I had heard of the Oxford Groups but had never heard about Frank Buchman and how the Oxford Groups were founded.

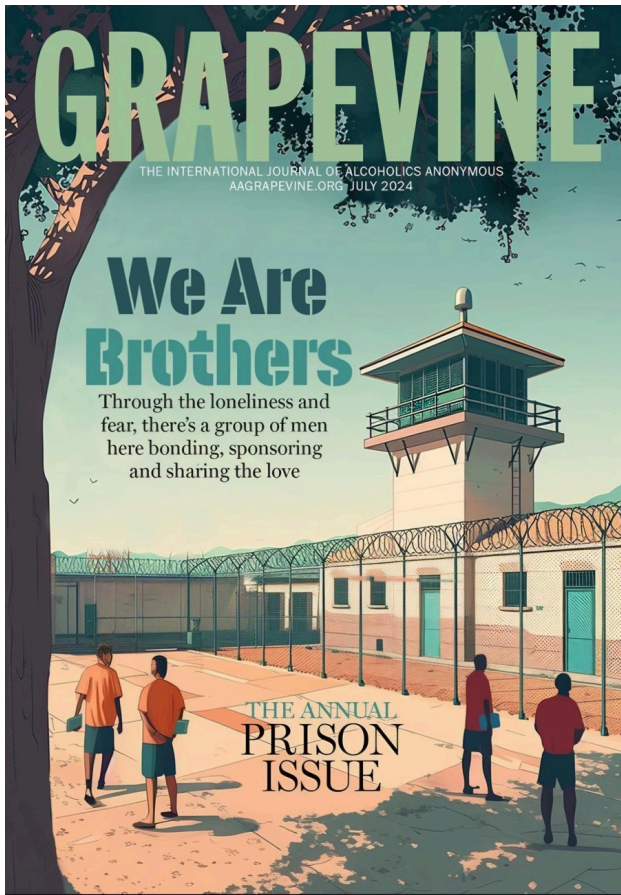
I hope you find this as interesting as I have.

Yours in service,

-Tom B.

District 81





THE JULY ISSUE OF THE GRAPEVINE

There are options for print and digital subscriptions, ranging from 1 month to 3 years. Get one for yourself, buy one as a gift for your spouse or sponsor, or both! It's a wonderful way to share experience, strength, and hope.

Scan the QR code below using your phone's camera feature and be taken directly to: <https://www.aagrapevine.org/store/us-subscriptions>



Some **blackouts** are better left forgotten ...

November 1946

Submitted by Robert H.
taken with permission from the Grapevine