



THE STAND



JANUARY 2011

THE OFFICIAL DISTRICT 12 NEWSLETTER

ISSUE ONE

Note from Tommy F.

District 12's Current DCM

Hello Friends

We in District 12 are really excited about the NEW publication of a District Newsletter. A few months ago the idea was born while the District 12 Committee met and performed a District inventory. Doing the inventory it was revealed that due to having a large District that stretched over 5 counties in the Texas Hill Country our message of the District Service Structure might not be reaching to all members and groups. We are proud of the involvement of Service in District 12 ranging from Public Information to Treatment and Correctional Facilities to the District Helpline phone service. There is many opportunities' for Service work in District 12 and really could use your help. District 12 meets the second Sunday of every month at rotating locations around the Hill Country. A complete meeting schedule and information about the District can be found on the District 12 website at www.aa12.org We invite you to get involved in Service and welcome your comments of how we can better serve you. Working together as we trudge the road to happy destiny

In the Spirit of Love and Service
Tommy F

In this Issue

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Wanna Get Involved?

The Newsletter Committee is currently seeking content for upcoming Newsletters. Please submit your ideas, comments, or suggestions to mikeseef@gmail.com.

"Gratitude is a form of Perspective."

Grapevine Article from Issue June 1990

An Instrument of Peace

The Eleven Step Prayer, the Prayer of St. Francis, asks that I be an instrument of peace, nothing else. When someone looks at a Masterpiece of Art, they praise the artist, not the brush. I am the instrument. It is up to the master to do what the master planned. My successes are not my successes. My failures are not my failures if I have done all that I can. I need to keep my big ego in check. I am not the important one.



Anonymous,
Brookline, Mass.

? Ask it Basket ?

What is a GSR?

The general service representative has the job of linking his or her group with A.A. as a whole. The GSR represents the voice of the group conscience, reporting the group's thoughts to the district committee member and to the delegate, who passes them on to the Conference. This communication is a two-way street, making the GSR responsible for bringing back to the group Conference Actions that affect A.A. unity, health, and growth. Only when a GSR keeps the group informed, and communicates the group conscience, can the Conference truly act for A.A. as a whole.

Have a Question? Just Ask it!
Send all questions or comments to
mikeseef@gmail.com

Tradition of the Month

TRADITION 1

*Our common welfare
should come first;
personal recovery
depends upon A.A.
unity. (short form)*

1. Am I in my group a healing, mending, integrating person, or am I divisive? What about gossip and taking other members inventories?
2. Am I gentle with those who rub me the wrong way, or am I abrasive?
3. Do I make competitive AA remarks? Do I put down some AA activities as if I were superior for not participating in this or that aspect of AA?
4. Am I informed about AA as a whole? Do I support, in every way I can?

District 12 Trusted Servants

DCM Tommy F. Alternate DCM Jim A. Secretary Josie E. Alt. Secretary Jamie C. Treasurer Debbie B. Archives Linda B. Correctional Facilities (Women) Josie E. Correctional Facilities (Men) Clay E. Grapevine Lester S. Help Line David M. Newsletter Mike S. Public Information Terry T. Cooperation with Professional Community B.J. K. Spanish Meeting Coordinator Joseph G. Treatment Facilities Greg B. Treatment Facilities, Alternate Teresa G.

ROCKETED TO THE FOURTH DIMENSION

by Bill H.

In the 1930's when the authors of the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous wrote: "we have been rocketed into a fourth dimension of existence", they were referring to spiritual transformation. Through redundancy, they emphasized the necessity of spiritual awakenings and experiences. Being three-dimensional, I am only able to see the world with my eyes in two dimensions. Though I cannot imagine the world of four dimensions due to my limitation in three dimensions, I can think about it. Thus, in the world of the spirit, I can think about things obscured from my three-dimensional viewpoint.

Establishing conscious contact with God, as we understand Him, is just that. Knowing God will always be a matter of faith because my limitations do not allow me to see the world of the spirit. For about half of us coming to Alcoholics Anonymous seeking freedom from alcoholic bondage, this world of the spirit eluded us. The entire program of AA is intended to allow me to experience this fourth dimension. Many of us came to AA to stop drinking but discovered there is so much more to life than abstinence. For me, abstinence without a spiritual program is far more devastating than drinking.

*"Not going to a meeting in a misdemeanor.
The more of them I miss the meaner I get."*

UPCOMING AA EVENTS / SERVICE WORK

AREA 68	WHERE	WHEN
SWTA Winter Workshop	Castroville	Jan 21-23
Austin Roundup	Austin	Jan 28-30
Costal Bend Jamboree	Corpus Christi	Jan 28-30
Weekend in SA Golf Tournament	San Antonio	Feb 25
SWTA 68 CFC Conference	Weslaco	Feb 25-27
SWTA Spring Conference	Corpus Christi	Apr 15-17

We want to know what's going on. Please send in Events and Service Opportunities that are happening in District 12 and we will list them here.

Contact Mike S. - 210-957-9061 - mikeseef@gmail.com

DISTRICT 12

WHERE WHEN

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

WHERE WHEN

HAM ON WRY

On the eve of the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America, certain historians offer proof that Christopher Columbus was, in fact, an alcoholic: 1) He went off without knowing where he was headed. 2) When he got there, he didn't know where he was. 3) When he got home he didn't know where he'd been. And 4) to top it all off, he got a woman to pay for it all.

The AA Grapevine, Inc. (October 1992)

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District 12 Newsletter Focus

To inform the AA community of information pertaining to District 12, Area 68, and GSO and to enlarge group participation.

Personal Story

by Madeline A.

I got first involved in the service structure as a steering committee member in North Texas during my early sobriety. When I moved to the Hill County in 1998, I had 13 years in the program. I had been out of the service structure for several years. I essentially volunteered to be the GSR for my group; Ingram Solutions and they let me do the job! Once I attended an area conference I was hooked. I have not missed an area conference in seven years. Once involved I began to learn the traditions and concepts in a new way based on action. These were directives as opposed to ideas just like the steps. They apply to our groups' and our involvement in the wonderful program worldwide. Once I finished my two-year term as GSR I was fortunate enough to be elected DCM of District 12. After that term I was asked to be the Treatment Facilities Chair for SWTA 68 and served two years in that position. I

had so much fun traveling around our beautiful area giving workshops and speaking to groups about carrying the message into treatment centers. In October last year I was honored to be elected Alternate Chairperson for SWTA 68. January will be the one-year anniversary of serving the area as an elected officer. My job is to compile the service events calendar of all the area officers and committee chairs and our SWTA events. I also get to chair the Area Committee Meeting at the four area conferences each year. I am also part of the Area Finance Committee and the chair of the Dark Districts Committee. I go to groups that invite me for various workshops and activities. I love the opportunities that have been given to me.

With gratitude and service,

Madeline A.