

DISTRICT 2

AREA 68 AA-SWTA

May NEWSLETTER

2026

from
our DCM



A Heartfelt Thank You to Everyone Who Joined Us at the District 2 Picnic!

What an incredible month April was for District 2! We are deeply grateful to everyone who came out to celebrate fellowship, fun, and recovery with us at the District Picnic. Your presence made the day truly special!

Early in April the Brownwood's Mock Conference was a tremendous success and went off without a hitch. Your GSRs will be bringing the proposed revisions for the Service Structure and Procedures Manual back to your groups for review and approval in the next couple months. These revisions will be voted on at the next Voting Assembly in October, proudly hosted by us in District 2.

As we prepare for this important event, any groups wishing to support District 2 through hospitality or service in any capacity are encouraged to let your GSR know or contact me directly—we would love your help!

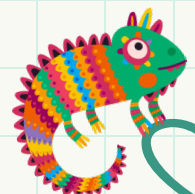
A very special shoutout goes to Steve C., our Alternate DCM, for all the hard work and dedication he put into organizing such a wonderful picnic. Thank you, Steve, for your spirit of service and commitment to our fellowship!

We were also blessed to hear from Mary T., our Area Chair from Area 68, who shared a powerful message of surrender and service.

As we move into May, we are reminded of the spirit of renewal, gratitude, and appreciation—especially for all the mothers in Alcoholics Anonymous whose love, strength, and perseverance enrich our fellowship every day.

Thank you all for allowing us to serve.

DCM
David Pexa



STEP FIVE

“Admitted to god, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs”

PRINCIPLE
Integrity

The One Thing I Need To Know:
Others See Us Better Than We Do



What Can I Surrender in this Step?

Fear of sharing my inventory with another human being.

5th Step PROMISES

It says on page 75 (Big Book 4th Edition) that “Once we have taken this step, withholding nothing, we are delighted.” It goes onto say that seven things will occur...

- We can look the world in the eye.
- We can be alone at perfect peace and ease.
- Our fears fall from us.
- We begin to feel the nearness of our Creator.
- We may have had certain spiritual beliefs, but now we begin to have a spiritual experience.
- The feeling that the drink problem has disappeared will often come strongly.
- We feel we are on the Broad Highway, walking hand in hand with the Spirit of the Universe.”

DEFINITION OF INTEGRITY:

Adherence to moral and ethical principles; soundness of moral character; honesty. The state of being whole, entire, or undiminished.

STEP FIVE



MYTHS ABOUT THIS STEP

It's not necessary to share your defects with another person—it's enough that your Higher Power knows.
FALSE

It's very important to reveal your inventory to another person, so you can receive feedback and experience. You'll feel a huge weight lifted once you confide in another. This will allow you to move on to Step 6 with humility.

Step Summary



Have you ever noticed that the Fifth Step doesn't say that we just admit our wrongs? It says that we admit the EXACT NATURE of our wrongs, so we need to do more than just confess what we did. We also need to see WHY we did what we did so that we can ask God to help us with it.

It's obvious why we share our inventory with another person – because we are MASTERS at believing in our own justifications and half-truths. Aren't we the ones who used to say we didn't have a drinking problem? Didn't we tell ourselves over and over that we were doing fine as we were sinking deeper and deeper into the abyss of alcoholism? Since we're not good judges of character, especially our own, we must confide in someone else. Only ANOTHER person can see us as we REALLY are. That's why it says that a SOLITARY self-appraisal is insufficient.

The purpose of this Step is to help ease the anxiety, depression and irritability of hiding the worst parts of us. We are able to rid ourselves of isolation and loneliness. If we don't report to someone on our shortcomings, we become God in our own lives as we did when we drank! THIS is the exact nature of our wrongs: We thought we were God – We thought we were in charge.

"What we used to be like" is not described in a "drunkalogue" (as it's commonly referred to but listed nowhere in our first 164). It is described best in the reasons for our spiritual disobedience that led to our alcoholism ("12 & 12" p.174). It is when we lay out all of the defects of character that block us from our happiness (and from God as we understand God).

"I was fearful – and I drank..."

"I was resentful – and I drank..."

"I was selfish – and I drank..."



A really effective description of what we used to be like will not list all of the alcohol you drank, or what the consequences of your actions were when you did drink. It will list the many defects of character that had you believe the only solution to your problem WAS to drink.

Therefore we have no reason not to read our inventory to someone. My relationship with my sponsor reinforces spiritual principles in my life. Every time I read an inventory, I receive the three blessings that are promised in the Fifth Step of the "12 & 12":

1- an end to loneliness and a sense of belonging to A.A. (p. 57)

2- a feeling that I could be forgiven and that I am able to forgive others (p. 58); and

3- a desire for true humility: a clear recognition of what and who I really am, followed by a sincere attempt to become what I could be (p. 58).

TRADITION FIVE

SHORT FORM:

"Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers."

LONG FORM:

"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."

OVERRIDING IDEA

We Only Have One Purpose 

PRINCIPLE
Purpose

Tradition Summary

WE ONLY HAVE ONE PURPOSE

It is the great paradox of A.A. that we know we can seldom keep the precious gift of sobriety unless we give it away. This Tradition delineates pretty clearly our individual primary purpose, as well as the group's. Each of us is but a small part of the whole, but by joining AA's primary purpose to our own, we become something bigger than our individual selves.

Am I willing to surrender my old primary purposes?

To work this tradition means that I am willing to say "yes" to this question and rearrange the rest of my priorities. Devoting myself to a new primary purpose means that I am willing to let go of many old ideas. I have many thinking patterns that are automatic that I need to change in order to consecrate myself to a new primary purpose.

Step-Tradition Parallel

The relationship of the fifth step to the fifth tradition is that the fifth step taught me the exact nature of my wrongs, "I'm not in charge." In the fifth tradition I learned just the opposite, I learned what my exact nature should be: my talent to carry the message to the alcoholic who still suffers, my primary purpose.

In the fifth step I learned what's wrong about me and in the fifth tradition I learned what's right about me. What's right about me is my ability to carry the message when no one else can because of the experiences that I have had which were transformed into a message of hope in the fifth step. My alcoholism is my greatest talent, not my talents as a husband, father, son, or my job. I can fulfill my primary purpose for being born by carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

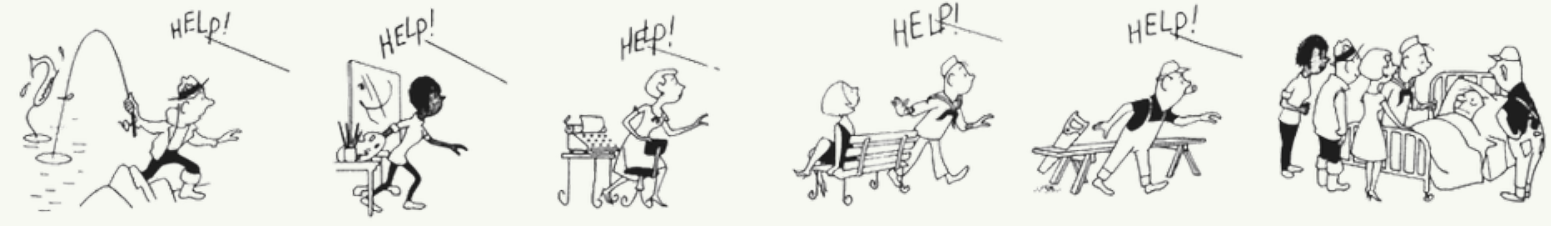
(Excerpts from the text above come from the Traditions Study developed by the Unity Insures Recovery Through Service A.A. Group, Los Angeles, CA.)



The Fifth Tradition

Each group has but one primary purpose
...to carry its message to the alcoholic
who still suffers.

No matter how different our own personal concerns, we are all bound together by one common **RESPONSIBILITY**...
to carry the message
to the suffering alcoholic.



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.

Every newcomer learns (some of us the hard way) that the business of staying sober must have top priority. If we fail at that, we can't succeed at anything else. The Fifth Tradition tells us that groups should remember *their* "one primary purpose."

Often, unthinking enthusiasm puts a group off the main track. One, for instance, offered an "expanded AA program" that included helping newcomers to find jobs. Tradition Five doesn't frown on the individual AA who tells another about a good opening. But when the group turns it self into an employment agency, newcomers may get confused about *their* primary purpose. AA's function is to help them get sober—then they can find work for themselves.

Using discretion, a member may lend a few dollars needed for a meal or a hotel room, or may even invite a broke alcoholic to be a temporary houseguest. But the AA group as a whole is not a friendly finance company, nor a welfare department, nor a housing bureau.

Even when acting on their own, as individual members, AA lay people certainly shouldn't award themselves honorary medical degrees and hand out diagnoses and prescriptions and amateur analysis of other people's neuroses. Exactly because this personal failing is so common, the AA group in all its dealings should be extra careful to emphasize that it is not invading the medical field. Through the personal experiences of its members, it is qualified to carry only one message: how an alcoholic can recover in AA. That's all.

Yet one group recently felt itself equipped to set up an "alcoholism information center." The temptation is understandable; it was even stronger at the time this Tradition was written, because public ignorance about alcoholism as an illness was more widespread than it is now. Since then, other agencies have sprung up to assume the task of educating the general public on alcoholism. That is not AA's purpose, but these agencies also are trying to help the active alcoholic. They are our friends—and Tradition Six marks the boundaries of the relationship....



HAVE INFO FOR THE NEWSLETTER?
Send it to: ReBecca Germer
rsgerber@yahoo.com
(830) 369-2815



Visit our
WEBSITE
www.area68district2.org



CONCEPT FIVE



SHORT FORM:

Throughout our structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, so that minority opinion will be heard and personal grievances receive careful consideration.

LONG FORM:

Throughout our world service structure, a traditional "Right of Appeal" ought to prevail, thus assuring us that minority opinion will be heard and that petitions for the redress of personal grievances will be carefully considered.

PRINCIPLE Democracy

ONE THING YOU NEED TO KNOW:

Trusted Servants Have a Right of Appeal

simplify:



TRUSTED SERVANTS HAVE A RIGHT OF APPEAL

Every member of A.A.'s world service structure has the right to state a minority opinion when they feel the majority has crossed over to the dark side.

We have to recognize that there are times when the minority can be right and it is our responsibility to listen to their petition. We have seen many examples where a well stated and well crafted minority opinion can change the outcome entirely.

In the spirit of democracy, allowing the minority opinion to be heard is vital to the unity we profess we must have in Tradition 1. Being able to balance the right of appeal with majority decision ensures we will never be subjected to the tyranny of either the majority or the minority.



LOCAL EVENTS



NEW MEETING

NEW BRAUNFELS GROUP

TOPIC MEETING

6:15 a.m.

**Mondays
&
Wednesdays**
in the
RECOVERY ROOM
Behind the 2-4 Club

Beginning May 4

BACK TO BASICS WORKSHOP

COMPLETE 11 STEPS IN ONE MONTH

The Month of June is Open!

Don't just study the steps—live them. Join us for an intensive, action-oriented journey through the 12-step program.

WHEN: Every Tuesday in June
TIME: 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
WHERE: 24 CLUB | 1142 Elkel St., New Braunfels

WHAT TO BRING: Please bring your 4th Edition Big Book. All other materials will be provided.


SPONSORSHIP: All attendees must be accompanied by a sponsor who has previously completed the workshop.

Don't have a sponsor? No problem! We have plenty of willing 12-Steppers ready to take you through the process the Back-to-Basics way.


BACK TO BASICS WORKSHOP
COMPLETE 11 STEPS IN ONE MONTH

QUESTIONS? Text Patty K. at 956-874-3954 or Email backtobasicsaa24club@gmail.com

QUESTIONS? Text Patty K. at 956-874-5954 or Email backtobasicsaa24club@gmail.com



SCAN TO REGISTER:



Blanco Spiritual Retreat

Oct 9th – 11th 2026

OUR 38TH RECOVERY FAMILY EVENT

COME JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP, CAMPING, SWIMMING, FISHING, MEETINGS, AA & AL-ANON SPEAKERS, RAFFLE, FOOD AND GAMES FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!!

\$20 Registration fee per person (pay @ time of entrance)
3 meals included. Daily Entrance Fee to Blanco State Park-Adult \$5, Child 12 and under free

Speakers
AA - Fri 7p.m. Billy D. / Sat 7p.m. TBD
Al-anon - Sat 2p.m. TBD

Meetings
Campfire meetings Fri & Sat 9p.m. ish
Saturday - 10a.m. Men's and Women's morning meetings

Meals
Friday Evening - 5:30p.m. Chili Dogs
Saturday Morning - 8:30a.m. Breakfast Tacos
Saturday Evening - 5:30p.m. BB Dinner

Bake Sale
Bring your finest baked goods to help us raise money to keep bringing the BSR back each year!! Saturday at noon.

Raffle
Raffle items will be on display all day Saturday w/ drawing to be held after Speaker Meeting (8p.m. ish). To donate NEW items, gift cards or cash donations please contact a BSR Committee Person.

Blanco State Park

Reserve by phone...
(512)-389-8900

101 Park Road Blanco,
TX 78606

For Camping or Shelter Reservations contact
Park directly
Reservations open
MAY 9th

Make Reservations online
at
texasreservations.com

Dogs Welcome on
Leash w/ Proof of
Vaccination

RETREAT INFO & SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Beverly H 713-417-0536
Wicky M 956-450-8192

SPIRIT ON THE RIVER

June 4-7, 2026

KL Ranch Cliffside | 5300 River Road |
New Braunfels, TX 78132

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Jenna T. 281-788-1833

Thurs. 6/4 8pm Open Discussion Jenna T. Happy Hour Group

Friday 6/5 7:30am Bike Run Roy V. Backlit Group

9am Open Discussion Jeffany M. Buda Big Book Group

6pm "Dam" Meeting Sarah E. & Rosemary L. Happy Hour/Zoom Group (Sites 12 & 13)

7:30pm Speaker Summer O. (2 yrs) New Braunfels Group

9pm Speaker Pat C. (9 yrs) Houston We Have a Solution Group

Saturday 6/6 7:00am Morning Meditation & Hike Rosemary N. Hobbe Original Group

9am Open Discussion Alan V. Night Owls Group

Noon Water Meeting Roy V. Backlit Group

6pm Community Dinner (please bring a side dish or dessert to share)

7:30pm Speaker Josh B. (8 yrs) Alamo Group

9pm Speaker Neleigh C. (6 yrs) W TX Primary Purpose Group (Odessa)

Sunday 6/7 7:00am Morning Meditation & Hike Rosemary N. Hobbe Original Group

8:30am River Trash Meeting Jay S. Young, Wild & Free Group (Sustained by the river)

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To reserve your spot, call KL Ranch Cliffside at 830-626-3663

*Location of meetings will be at sites 12 & 13

 Look for us on Facebook!
"Spirit On The River 2026"

Please note: NO PETS or ESA's allowed!! Service animals must be registered!

Daily Rates for KL Camp:
\$5/person for a day from Sun-9pm
Weekend Permit:
Thurs-Sun = \$42/adults-\$24 kids (3-12)
Fri-Sun = \$25/adults-\$16 kids (3-12)
Sat-Sun = \$14/adults-\$8 kids (3-12)
May come and go except from 12a-Sun (may go out, just not come in)



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