

{NO BOOZE NEWS}

THE MORE DEPENDENT WE BECOME ON A HIGHER POWER, THE MORE INDEPENDENT WE BECOME

PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY BY THE AA INTERGROUP COUNCIL OF WEST CENTRAL ARKANSAS
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INTERGROUP BULLETIN

VOLUME III – AUGUST-SEPTEMBER – 2012

The Intergroup meets 2PM, the last Sunday of each month at 411 Sellers Street. We urge all groups to have an intergroup rep present so you will be up to date on what is going on with your intergroup, and also to provide us with any input from your group.

We need your input for this Bulletin on items of interest, i.e. birthday lists, upcoming events, personal stories, [we are always in need of guest writers](#), and anything else that you would like to see in your bulletin. You can mail your information to: Intergroup Bulletin, P.O. Box 6401, Hot Springs, AR. 71902. You can also E-mail your information to Bill D. at bjd62070@cablelynx.com. Please put “NO BOOZE NEWS” in the subject line. Bulletins will be snail mailed to group representatives for reproduction and distribution. You can also receive the Bulletin in your E-mail by providing your E-mail address to Bill D., or you can pick up a copy from the book store at 411 Sellers.

Our website is up and running....Go to <http://intergroupweark.org> and check it out. I am sure you will very much like what you find.

A History of Alcoholism Part III

“A lack of readiness on their part to acknowledge their dependence on God, no small desecration of the Sabbath, and a painful unwillingness, in not a few professed Christians, to connect the temperance cause...with religion.” The above quote from John Marsh, secretary of the American Temperance Movement and a strong supporter of the Washingtonians, indicated concern in 1842 about the attitude of the group members. As quickly as the Washingtonian Movement found favor in our society, it swiftly declined in popularity and had all but disappeared by 1860. How could a program with such lofty goals fail? While historians are not in total agreement, some of the following arguments may have played a factor in the demise:

1... Even though there was no requirement for any belief in God, the Washingtonians felt that their movement represented a true form of Christianity, something not found in churches. They

felt they were walking the walk and living a way of life others did not. The church quickly responded that any organization for the moral reformation of mankind not accepted by Jesus Christ was not acceptable.

2... A lack of organization or policy between the various groups resulted in no specific guidelines. Members would travel from city to city and be confronted with different rules and regulations.

3... The sponsorship of the Washingtonians by the Temperance Movement ended up mixing ideas which were not compatible. The Temperance Movement was then given the credit for the success of the Washingtonians, and the original Baltimore society was forgotten.

4... The emergence of Sons of Temperance had grown to as many as 700,000 members by 1850 and, while it claimed to preserve the movement, the opposite was true.

5... The admission of non-alcoholics as members defeated the exclusive membership idea.

What did A.A. learn from this movement?

Nothing! It should be noted that Bill W. and Dr. Bob had no knowledge of the Washingtonians existence when the program of A.A. began. Their ideas had come from the Oxford Group, which got its start in the early 20th century. There were, however, some very similar principles shared by the Washingtonians and A.A.:

1... Alcoholics helping each other.

2... Weekly meetings.

3... The sharing of experiences.

4... The fellowship of the group being constantly available.

5... Total abstinence from alcohol. Upon examination there were also major differences which accounted for the difference between the failure of the Washingtonians and the success of A.A.:

1... Exclusive alcoholic membership.

2... A singleness of purpose

3... A program of recovery

4... Anonymity

The answer to last month's question is yes, the Washingtonians are still around. The movement established a home in Chicago for the rehabilitation of alcoholics which is still in operation today.

Who did Bill W. consider as one of the cofounders of A.A.? The answer will appear in the next issue in "A History of Alcoholism, Part IV."

Re-Printed from the San Diego AA Coordinator

District 8 Calendar

AUGUST 1 * **DEADLINE** to issue Agenda for September 9th D8 Meeting (Brad M. 501.860.4817)

AUGUST 9 * **DEADLINE** to mail June 3rd District 8 minutes, reports and September 9th agenda to GSR's (Chris A. 501.920.5364)

SEPTEMBER 9 (1:00pm) * District 8 Business Meeting @ 411 Sellers Street (Brad M. 501.860.4817)

* Executive Committee Elections *

SEPTEMBER 16 * District 8 Oldtimer's Appreciation Potluck (Beth N. 870.260.4260)

OCTOBER 6 - 7 * Area Assembly @ Howard-Johnson Hotel in Conway (501.329.2961)

INTERGROUP REPS NEEDED

Intergroup Council of West-Central Arkansas
P.O. Box 6401, Hot Springs, Arkansas 71902
Phone 501-623-6328

All AA groups in the West Central Arkansas area are encouraged to name an Intergroup Representative to express the group's conscience, views and desires at the monthly Intergroup meeting. Intergroup meets at their office at 411 Sellers St. (lower level) in Hot Springs (at Hot Springs AA Group) at 2:00 PM -last Sunday of each month.

The Intergroup maintains a listing for AA in the local telephone directories. AA volunteers answer the phones and when calls come for individuals looking for help - individuals seeking help for other problems are referred to appropriate programs or agencies. The Intergroup is the clearinghouse for information and logistical support between individual AA members, groups, local and state Committees, General Service Office in New York and the community at large.

The Intergroup maintains records of AA groups and meetings and publishes a meeting list of AA meetings in District 08. The Intergroup Bulletin will be published by volunteers every other month and will be mailed free of charge to all GSRs and by paid subscription to other interested parties. We need YOUR input, birthday lists, upcoming special events, etc!! Send any input and contributions to the address above. The Intergroup Bookstore maintains an inventory of AA books and pamphlets for sale to AA members, groups and the general public. We also service Conventions, community functions and Area 04 Assembly with AA literature.

THIS IS A GREAT WAY TO CARRY THE MESSAGE!

PS If you have any questions or would like a brief Intergroup Workshop at your homegroup, please call me at 501-915-9267.

In love & service, Bill B., Chairperson

On Sunday June 24th, we had a great longtimers meeting at 411 Sellers St. the subject was Tradition 5; Carrying the message to the alcoholic who still suffers. Part of the discussion was directed to our singleness of purpose. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who showed up, but I fear that somehow the term "longtimers", had some of our fellowship thinking that it was for "old-timers" only. Nothing could be further from the truth. These service meetings are for the entire fellowship, no matter your length of sobriety. We hope to have more of these service structure meetings in the future, and hope for a larger turnout. Andy A.

"Humility is a personal achievement, it cannot be given away. It comes in glimmers and grows like an ice crystal. It is fragile, too, thus requiring constant care and protection."

I AM AN INSTRUMENT

Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

[TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS](#) p. 70.

The subject of humility is a difficult one. Humility is not thinking less of myself than I ought to; it is acknowledging that I do certain things well, it is accepting a compliment graciously.

God can only do *for* me what He can do *through* me. Humility is the result of knowing that God is the doer, not me. In the light of this awareness, how can I take pride in my accomplishments? I am an instrument and any work I seem to be doing is being done by God through me. I ask God on a daily basis to remove my shortcomings, in order that I may more freely go about my A.A. business of "love and service."

Re-Printed from Daily Ponderables 7/9/12

Why do I balk at the word "humility"? I am not humbling myself toward other people, but toward God, as I understand Him. Humility means "to show submissive respect," and by being humble I realize I am not the center of the universe. When I was drinking, I was consumed by pride and self-centeredness. I felt the entire world revolved around me, that I was master of my destiny. Humility enables me to depend more on God to help me overcome obstacles, to help me with my own imperfections, so that I may grow spiritually. I must solve more difficult problems to increase my proficiency and, as I encounter life's stumbling blocks, I must learn to overcome them through God's help. Daily communion with God demonstrates my humility and provides me with the realization that an entity more powerful than I is willing to help me if I cease trying to play God myself.

Re-Printed from Daily Ponderables

Greetings!

I am thrilled to share with you the recent news release from the Library of Congress that our book, Alcoholics Anonymous, has been named on its list of 88 Books that Shaped America - books that have "influenced the nation...shaped Americans' view of their world and the world's views of America." The Big Book will be on display -- along with the remaining books on the list - as part of a special exhibition in Washington, D.C., from June 25th through September 29th.

Phyllis Halliday
General Manager
GSO US/Canada
212-870-3145

June/July
Group Contributions

Rock Bottom
Hot Springs AA
164 H&NP
ARKYJAA
Grant County
Arkadelphia Group #1
Evergreen

Thank you for your contributions

YJD
Contributions

Before and After
District 8
Evergreen
Grant County
Hot Springs AA
Newcomers
Norman Firehouse
Central Big Book

Birthdays

Carrie S. — 1 Year — 06/04/2011
Shawn B. — 1 Year — 07/08/2011
Donnie H. — 1 Year — 07/05/2011
David P. — 2 Years — 07/24/2010
Bobby P. — 2 Years — 07/14/2010
Michelle M. — 3 Years — 07/30/2009
Jenny F. — 3 Years — 07/08/2009
Dalacey W. — 4 Years — 07/07/2008
Michelle H. — 5 Years — 07/17/2007
Mary M. — 17 Years — 06/05/1995
Kyle M. — 19 Years — 07/04/1993
Lisa F. — 20 Years — 07/05/1992
Ron R. — 31 Years — 07/23/1981
Bill D. — 31 Years — 07/16/1981
Jan D. — 31 Years — 07/05/1981

Humility Is A Gift

As long as we placed self-reliance first, a genuine reliance upon a Higher Power was out of the question. That basic ingredient of all humility, a desire to seek and do God's will was missing.

Re-Printed from Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, p. 72 With permission of AAWS

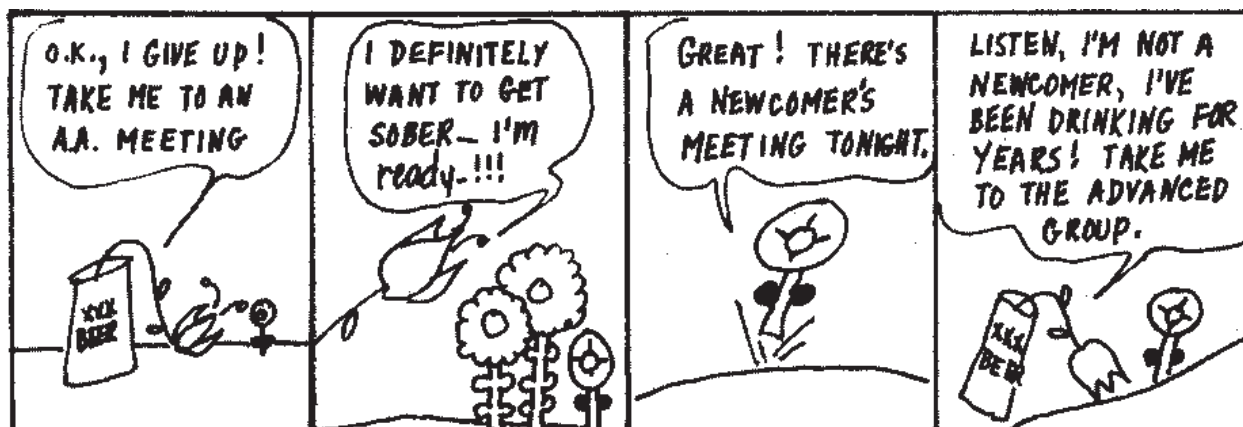
When I first came to A.A., I wanted to find some of the elusive quality called humility. I didn't realize I was looking for humility because I thought it would help me get what I wanted, and that I would do anything for others if I thought God would somehow reward me for it. I try to remember now that the people I meet in the course of my day are as close to God as I am ever going to get while on this earth. I need to pray for knowledge of God's will today, and see how my experience with hope and pain can help other people; if I can do that, I don't need to search for humility, it has found me

Re-Printed from Daily Ponderables 7/13/12

Sharing From Behind the Walls

The newsletter *Sharing From Behind the Walls* is published quarterly by the Corrections assignment and contains excerpts from inmate letters sent to G.S.O. and reprinted with the inmates' permission. These newsletters are intended for widespread distribution to inmates involved in A.A. in correctional facilities. This newsletter may be duplicated for distribution to inmates without obtaining permission from A.A. World Services, Inc.

Link -- <http://www.aa.org/lang/en/subpage.cfm?page=310>



Reprinted From Grapevine, July 2005

UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 2 - Labor Day BBQ & Potluck 12-3 Family Fun Park Pavilion 2**
- September 13-16 - Arkansas Travelers roundup El Dorado, -- 870-862-5191**
- September 13-16 - 54th ICYPAA - St Louis, MO. -- 800-325-7353**
- September 21-23 - Autumn in the Ozarks - Mt. Home, AR. 800-272-6232**
- October 12-14 - ARKYPAA 30th annual Surrender Camp Mitchell Campgrounds.**

OPENING UP TO CHANGE

Self-searching is the means by which we bring new vision, action and grace to bear upon the dark and negative side of our natures. With it comes the development of that kind of humility that makes it possible for us to receive God's help.... we find that bit by bit, we can discard the old life—the one that did not work—for a new life that can and does work under any conditions whatever.

OLD GRANDAD #72

What a fine time was had by all at the 72nd Old Grandad in the Spa city over the weekend of July 27, 28 and 29. There were fantastic speakers from DC to Santa Fe, The hospitality always had something good to eat, and either friends you knew or friends you hadn't met yet to tell sea stories and gab with. Grapevine had a super display and the West central Arkansas intergroup had a complete store available for anyone who needed or just wanted a book, a pamphlet, or just information on what is going on in town. The Intergroup wishes to thank everyone who helped. If you missed it, mark your calendar next year for August 2, 3 and 4 2013. Hot Springs AA won the Jug for the most registrations.

Re-Printed from As Bill Sees It, pp. 8, 10

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