



WHY WE WERE CHOSEN

God in his wisdom, selected this group of men and women to be the purveyors of His goodness. He went not to the proud, the mighty, the famous or the brilliant. He went instead to the humble, the sick, the unfortunate. He went straight to the drunkard, that so-called weakling in this world. Well might He have said to us:

“Unto your weak and feeble hands, I have entrusted a power beyond estimate. To you has been given that which has been denied the most learned of your fellows. Not to scientists or statesmen, not to wives or mothers, not even to my priests or ministers, have I given this gift of healing other alcoholics which I entrust to you.

It must be used unselfishly, it carries with it grave responsibility; sometimes the difference between life and death. No day can be too long; no demands upon your time can be too urgent; no case too pitiful; no task too hard; no effort too great. It must be used with tolerance, for I had restricted its application to no race, no creed, and no denomination. Personal criticism you must expect; lack of appreciation will be common; ridicule will be your lot; your motives will be misjudged. You must be prepared for adversity, for what men call adversity is the ladder you must use to ascend the rungs toward spiritual perfection. And, remember, in the exercise at this power, I shall not exact of you beyond your capabilities.

You are not selected because of exceptional talents. Be careful, always if success attends your efforts, not to ascribe to personal superiority that to which you lay claim only by virtue of My gift. If I had wanted learned men to accomplish this mission, the power would have been entrusted to the physician and the scientists. If I had wanted eloquent men; there would have been many anxious for the assignment, for talk is the easiest used of all the talents with which I have endowed mankind. If I had wanted scholarly men, the world is filled with better qualified men than you, who would be available.

You were selected because you have been the outcasts of the world, and your long experience as drunkards has made or should make you humbly alert to the cries of the distressed that come from the lonely hearts of alcoholics everywhere.

Keep ever in mind the admission you made on the day of your profession in A.A.--that you are powerless and that it was only with your willingness to turn your life and will unto My keeping that relief came to you.”

**This is an excerpt from the address given by Judge John T. on the Fourth Anniversary of the Chicago Group on October 5, 1943, later made into a small pamphlet entitled, “Why We Were Chosen”.*

The next MAIA IG Reps business meeting will be Sunday, March 13, 2022 @ 1pm at Leawood Baptist Church, 3638 Macon Road, and on Zoom ID: 604 292 8975, PW: 76237
You do not have to be an Intergroup Representative to attend, although only the IG Reps have a voice and vote. We welcome you!

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

	Feb 22	Feb 21	Jan - Feb 22
AMAA	0.00	0.00	8.03
Came to Believe Group	50.00	100.00	100.00
Central Gardens Group	0.00	50.00	50.00
Collierville Group	0.00	0.00	518.99
Collierville Hopefuls	0.00	0.00	82.43
Common Solution	0.00	0.00	100.00
Design For Living	70.08	535.40	70.08
Downtown Nooners N/S	0.00	50.00	200.00
Downtown Thursday Night Group	0.00	0.00	77.37
Earlybird	355.60	0.00	496.39
Germantown Happy	0.00	0.00	3,523.17
Germantown Noon	206.49	119.82	334.49
Grace in the Grove	0.00	48.60	0.00
Happy Destiny	50.00	50.00	50.00
Hollywood	0.00	0.00	0.81
Horn Lake	10.00	10.00	20.00
IG Monthly rep meeting	20.00	0.00	20.00
Lakeland	0.00	59.00	272.62
Midtown Group	60.00	5.61	60.00
Neshoba Awakening	10.00	10.00	20.00
New Start	14.62	0.00	14.62
Overton Park	180.00	0.00	180.00
Personal Adventure	0.00	0.00	230.81
Pleasant Hill	0.00	0.00	88.76
Primary Purpose	0.97	0.00	0.97
Real Deal/Oats Manor AA	20.00	0.00	20.00
Rule-62	300.00	0.00	300.00
Serenity Group	200.00	225.00	200.00
Seriously Sober	57.00	0.00	57.00
Shady Ladies	0.00	200.00	0.00
Shipwreck	0.00	0.00	48.51
Sober Journey	100.00	0.00	100.00
Solutions Group	840.00	420.00	840.00
South Memphis	10.00	39.34	20.00
The Nooner	143.00	45.00	281.00
Two Doors Down	300.00	200.00	600.00
Unity Group	309.22	0.00	309.22
WAAGL	0.00	75.00	100.00
Whitehaven Morning Sunrisers-	0.00	75.00	0.00
Winchester	0.00	0.00	178.00
Worldly Indeed	672.46	182.00	672.46
TOTAL	3,979.44	2,499.77	10,245.73

*because you asked.....
because you asked.....*

A.A. Guidelines

Relationship Between A.A. and Clubs

from G.S.O., Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

These Guidelines are for A.A. members responsible for clubs and similar facilities that provide meeting space for one or more A.A. groups.

It's important that club members and A.A. groups respect A.A.'s Twelve Traditions, including the long form of Tradition Three that defines an A.A. group: "Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend on money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation."

The relationship between a club and an A.A. group is mutually beneficial when all involved respect the autonomy of the group. Members of a group may also be "club members," and pay dues to enjoy the privileges of the club. However, there are no dues or fees for membership in an A.A. group, and each group is self-supporting with regard to rental payments for meeting space, coffee arrangements and literature.

SINCE THE EARLY DAYS...

There have always been A.A.s who have sought a place to go for coffee and conversation; a spot where members could gather for lunch; a place where they could gather socially on weekends and holidays.

In 1947, Bill W. wrote a Grapevine article on clubs that became part of our pamphlet "A.A. Tradition—How It Developed." The title carried the question, "Clubs in A.A.—Are They With Us to Stay?" Today, the answer to that question can be "yes." The success and the endurance of the club idea can be ascribed to the wisdom and guidance expressed in Bill's article and to the willingness of clubminded A.A.s to help make them work. These A.A.s make it possible for a club to function effectively without detracting from A.A.'s source of recovery—the A.A. group. Experience demonstrates that a club can live in harmony with the A.A. community and serve a very useful purpose for those who find a club helpful.

GETTING STARTED

- Even though a club is not "A.A.," many will think of the club as A.A.—particularly the non-A.A.s in your community. While it is suggested that the name of the club not involve A.A., the club members stick carefully to A.A.'s Twelve Traditions and accept funds only from club members. Naturally, this includes any kind of fundraising that would involve the public. Dues and contributions from club members keep the club going, in addition to rent money from A.A. groups that hold their meetings in the club.

Frequently, there is a temptation for a club to accept building materials, furniture, and kitchen equipment and supplies from well-meaning, civic-minded non-A.A.s. Everyone in the club will want to respect Tradition Seven and the principle of self-support that has brought A.A. along to this point completely independent and financially sound.

- Define the purpose of the club and look for space that will meet the club's needs. Determine the amount of money needed for such an operation, and work out a budget that will cover getting started, rent, utilities, custodial care, and any other known expenses.

- Call a meeting of all interested A.A.s—separate from an A.A. group meeting. Discuss the plans and financial needs, and determine how many dues-paying members can be counted on from the beginning. Also, ask the local A.A. group or groups whether they would be interested in renting space from the club for meetings and, if so, how much rent they would consider reasonable.

Sometimes, charter members of the club are willing to pay a little more in the beginning to help get the club off the ground. It seems better to ask all to participate in this financing than for one or two people to assume this responsibility. Let every A.A. participate who wants to, so that the club has the support of many members.

- At this meeting, you might also determine qualifications for club membership. Most clubs require 30 days of A.A. sobriety, while a few require 90 days. But new A.A.s may use the club facilities as guests until they qualify for club membership. All dues-paying members are normally eligible to hold office and to vote at the club business meetings.

WHAT KIND OF DIRECTORS?

- During the initial meeting, ask interested members to consider two more questions: Who will serve as club directors?; and What should their qualifications be? Directors' handle the business affairs of the club, are responsible for the lease and pay all bills for maintenance of the property. Many clubs require approximately three years' A.A. sobriety for directors. Most agree that A.A. members serving as club directors should not hold offices in the A.A. groups meeting in the club. This practice avoids confusion and conflicts.

BUSINESS DECISIONS

- If enough A.A.s are interested to make financing possible, it is time to consult a lawyer and have the club incorporated as a nonA.A.® Guidelines Relationship Between A.A. and Clubs from G.S.O., Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163 A.A. Guidelines are compiled from the shared experience of A.A. members in various service areas. They also reflect guidance given through the Twelve Traditions and the General Service Conference (U.S. and Canada). In keeping with our Tradition of autonomy, except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole, most decisions are made by the group conscience of the members involved. The purpose of these Guidelines is to assist in reaching an informed group conscience. profit business organization, under the rules of the state or province in which it will function. Needless to say, a club so incorporated should not have "A.A." in its name. This should not be a very complicated or expensive project. Incorporation is in accordance with Tradition Six, which implies that property to be used by A.A.s should be separately incorporated and managed, "lest problems of money, property, and prestige" divert A.A. from its primary purpose. If bank loans are necessary, they are held by directors of the corporation, and payments are made from club funds. It is better to start small and enlarge as growth and finances warrant.

- After the club is incorporated, a meeting of the directors may be held to determine details of club operation. This might be followed by a meeting of dues-paying members to obtain approval of overall plans and club rules.

- Gambling: Many difficulties have been caused in already-existing clubs over the years because of gambling; and in some cases, publicity and notoriety have resulted. Because so many club members are also A.A. members, this kind of thing can be damaging to A.A.

- Card games, billiards, table tennis, and TV-watching are activities that many club members enjoy, if they are played for the fun of it, not for money (gambling, placing bets, etc.).

- Experience proves that intergroup or central offices, answering services, and central service committees need to be separate from clubs—physically separate and separate as far as administration is concerned. In some cases, a newly formed intergroup or central office is invited to use club facilities. At that point, A.A.s should take a good look at Tradition Nine and remember that a service office is responsible to all A.A. groups and members, while a club is responsible chiefly to its dues-paying members and the groups that rent space from the club.

A.A. GROUPS MEETING IN CLUBS

The A.A. group: The importance of each group's maintaining its autonomy and identity separate from the club in which it meets cannot be emphasized too strongly. The group's responsibility is to the suffering alcoholic and to the Fellowship as a whole, rather than to the club. In order to fulfill this primary purpose:

- The group uses a name different from that of the club.
- The group is self-supporting through its own contributions. This includes paying a fair rent for use of the facilities, maintaining a separate treasury, and making its own contributions directly to the local central/intergroup office, the district, the area general service committee, and to G.S.O.

- Remember, an A.A. group is available to any alcoholic, as the only requirement for group membership is a desire to stop drinking.

- Even though the group meets in a club that may be composed exclusively of A.A. members, and many members of the group may be club members, too, the relationship of the A.A. group itself to the club should be the same as it would be to a church, hospital, school, or other facility in which it might rent space for its meetings.

CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS A discussion on clubs during the 1967 General Service Conference noted that, although there is no such thing as an “A.A. club,” many clubs have been identified with A.A. because they are often organized and directed by A.A. members and membership may be limited to A.A.s. Clubs where meetings are held and which are maintained for Twelfth Step as well as social purposes can avoid difficulties by abiding by A.A. Traditions. Conference members agreed that clubs should not use the A.A. name, should be organized apart from A.A., and should not accept money from outside sources, being supported by membership dues and individual contributions from A.A. members. The question of a paid membership in A.A. does not arise, since A.A. meetings held in clubs are open to all.

Further guidance was given by the 1972 General Service Conference, which advised that G.S.O. no longer accept contributions from clubs. This decision was based on returns from a questionnaire sent to all clubs. The answers indicated that the difference in club operating procedures was too great to enable G.S.O. to decide whether or not money received from a particular club was contributed by A.A. members only. (Of course, G.S.O. does accept contributions from A.A. groups that meet on club premises.)

In 1989, the General Service Conference recommended to discontinue listing clubs in A.A. Directories. However, groups that meet in clubs will continue to be listed in the Directories.

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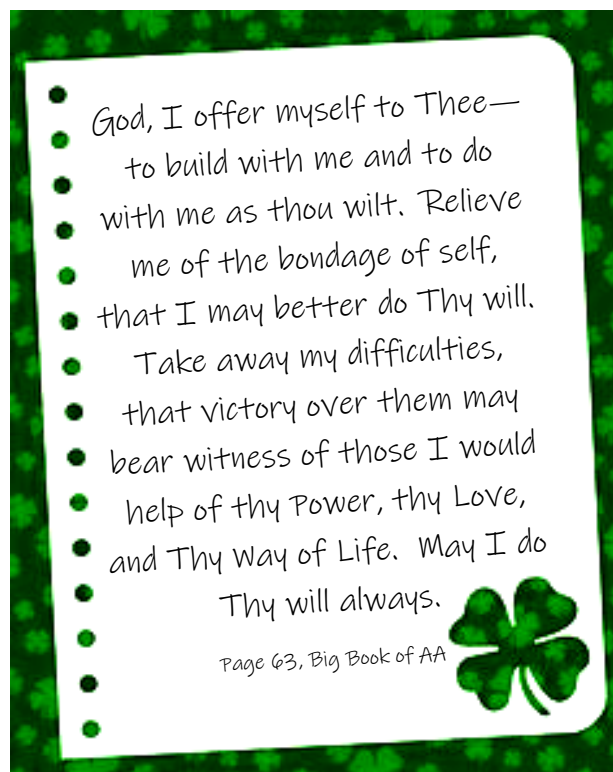


The Memphis Area Archives Committee (MAAC) is moving their belongings to the Intergroup Office, and to that end we wish to thank Bubba

C., of the Midtown Group, and his helper, Jessie, for building shelves in one of the closets here in the office. We are grateful for your help, and are excited to work with the Memphis Area Standing Committees in this manner.

To be helpful is our only aim*.

*page 89, Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous, reprinted with permission



STEP THREE

“Came to believe that a power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity”

MARCH BIRTHDAYS



TRADITIONS

Joe W.....47 years
John M.....32 years
Denise J.....11 years
Loretta C.....6 years

GERMANTOWN NOON

Teri S.....9 years
Sharon L.....17 years
Jo K.....19 years
Levorn C.....18 years
Christy M.....36 years

REAL DEAL

Henry M.....34 years

WINCHESTER

Lindsay M.....7 years
Jimmy D.....21 years

UNITY

Elizabeth B.....15 years
Pam C.....8 years
Katherine Q.....6 years
Andrea K.....2 years
Angela V.....2 years
Monique H.....1 year

CENTRAL GARDENS:

Lesley Y.....8 years
Stephanie V.....12 years
Matt C.....18 years
Ann P.....21 years
Amy F.....21 years
Reuben.....38 years

RULE 62

Charly M.....16 years

DOWNTOWN THURSDAY

NIGHT GROUP

Bobby B.....1 year
Cayce L.....38 years
Dale S.....49 years
Lanel P.....5 years
Tammy H.....22 years

THINGS WE CANNOT CHANGE

TYONE M., MEMBER OF JAYWALKERS; SOBER 7 YEARS

MEMORIES OF ALCOHOL

"I drank for happiness and became unhappy. I drank for joy and became miserable. I drank for sociability and became argumentative. I drank for sophistication and became obnoxious. I drank for friendship and made



enemies. I drank for sleep and woke up tired. I drank for strength and felt weak. I drank for relaxation and got the shakes. I drank

for courage and became afraid. I drank for confidence and became doubtful. I drank to make conversation easier and slurred my speech. I drank to feel heavenly and ended up feeling like hell."- Author Unknown

Tradition Three

Short Form: "The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking."

Long Form: "Our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism. Hence we may refuse none who wish to recover. Nor ought A.A. membership ever depend upon money or conformity. Any two or three alcoholics gathered together for sobriety may call themselves an A.A. group, provided that, as a group, they have no other affiliation."

Schedule of



March 2022

MAIA IG REPS MTG

March 13 @ 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Zoom ID# 604 292 8975

District 21 Monthly Business Meeting

March 14 @ 7pm ID 938 0624 2934

PW 2121

District 22 Monthly Business Meeting

March 5 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Area 51 Group, 3563 Thomas St

Memphis, TN 38127

District 23 Monthly Business Meeting

March 13 @ 11:00 am.

Zoom ID #851 8878 9376 PW 847990

District 24 Monthly Business Meeting

March 5 @ 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Zoom ID #132801735 PW 020409

District 25 Monthly Business Meeting

March 9 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Germantown Municipal Park w/Zoom

option

Memphis Area Treatment Facility Committee

March 7 @ 6:45 pm - 8:00 pm

Zoom ID 3400679076, PW 0

Memphis Area Correctional Committee

March 1 @ 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm

Came to Believe, 2865 Walnut Grove

Memphis, TN 38111

Cooperation w/ Professionals Committee

March 21 @ 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm

Zoom ID# 854 4657 0800 PW 135177

Memphis Area Grapevine Committee

March 15 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

White Station Church of Christ

1106 Colonial Rd, Memphis

Memphis Area Archives Committee

March 27 @ 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Two Doors Down

1578 Yorkshire

District 22 Workshop

March 19 @ 3pm

House of Hope

1425 Drummonds Rd, Munford, TN

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



Scan to contribute to MAIA

Concept Three

“To insure effective leadership, we should endow each element of A.A. —the Conference, the General Service Board and its service corporations, staffs, committees, and executives—with a traditional “Right of Decision”

Daily Reflections
March 17
MYSTERIOUS WAYS

" ... out of every season of grief or suffering, when the hand of God seemed heavy or even unjust, new lessons for living were learned, new resources of courage were uncovered, and that finally, inescapably, the conviction came that God does 'move in a mysterious way: His wonders to perform.'"

—TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS, p. 105

After losing my career, family and health, I remained unconvinced that my way of life needed a second look. My drinking and other drug use were killing me, but I had never met a recovering person or an A.A. member. I thought I was destined to die alone and that I deserved it. At the peak of my despair, my infant son became critically ill with a rare disease. Doctors' efforts to help him proved useless. I redoubled my efforts to block my feelings, but now the alcohol had stopped working. I was left staring into God's eyes, begging for help. My introduction to A.A. came within days, through an odd series of coincidences, and I have remained sober ever since. My son lived and his disease is in remission. The entire episode convinced me of my powerlessness and the unmanageability of my life. Today my son and I thank God for his intervention.

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"The Tippler" is a free monthly publication, and will be emailed to anyone interested. However, if you'd like to receive a copy via USPS, a contribution of \$5 monthly, or \$60 annually, helps defray the costs involved. Fill out the form below and, along with your contribution, mail to the above address. We thank you!

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