



MAIA

TIPPLER

APRIL 2024

Step 4 Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

Tradition 4 With respect to its own affairs, each A.A. group should be responsible to no other authority than its own conscience. But when its plans concern the welfare of neighboring groups also, those groups ought to be consulted. And no group, regional committee, or individual should ever take any action that might greatly affect A.A. as a whole without conferring with the Trustees of the General Service Board. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.

Concept 4 Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional “Right of Participation,” taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.

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If we have been thorough about our personal inventory, we have written down a lot. We have listed and analyzed our resentments. We have begun to comprehend their futility and their fatality. We have commenced to see their terrible destructiveness. We have begun to learn tolerance, patience and good will toward all men, even our enemies, for we look on them as sick people. We have listed the people we have hurt by our conduct, and are willing to straighten out the past if we can

-AA Big Book, Page 70

Memphis Area Intergroup Association
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memphis-aa.org



APRIL 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	6:45 - 7:45 pm Treatment Committee 8:00 - 9:00 pm District 21 Committee	6:45 - 7:45 pm Memphis Area Correctional Committee				9:00 am - 10:30 am District 24 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm District 22
7	8	6:00 - 7:00 pm Memphis Area Grapevine Committee	6:00 - 7:00 pm District 25	11	12	13
11:00 am - 12:00 pm District 23	6:45 pm - 7:45 pm CPC/PI Committee				6:45 - 7:45 pm Memphis Area Accessibility Committee	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
3:45 - 5:00 pm Memphis Area Archives Committee	29	30	1	2	3	4

Holidays and Observances: 1: Easter Monday, 15: Tax Day

DISTRICT & COMMITTEE MEETINGS

April 1 @ 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm
Memphis Treatment
Committee
Came to Believe
2865 Walnut Grove
Memphis, TN 38111

April 1 @ 8:00 pm - 9:00 pm
District 21 Committee
Meeting
Crosstown Concourse
1350 Concourse Ave #1072
Memphis, TN 38104

April 2 @ 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm
Memphis Area Correctional Committee
Came to Believe
2865 Walnut Grove
Memphis, TN 38111

April 6 @ 9:00 am - 10:30 am District
24- Hybrid (ID 9186741-p/w-welcome
Highland Heights Presbyterian Church
2855 Morning Sun Road
Lakeland, 38016

April 6 @ 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
District 22
Olympic Steak & Pizza
8500 Wilkissville Road
Millington, TN 38053

April 9 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Memphis Area
Grapevine Committee
White Station Church of Christ
1106 Colonial Rd

April 10 @ 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
District 25
Germantown United Methodist Church
2324 Germantown Road
Germantown, TN 38138

April 14 @ 11:00 am - 12:00 pm
District 23
Zoom password 847990

April 15 @ 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm
CPC/PI Committee
The Way House
1203 Peabody Ave
Memphis, TN 38104

April 19 @ 6:45 pm - 7:45 pm
Accessibility Committee
2865 Walnut Grove
Memphis, TN 38111

April 28 @ 3:45 pm - 5:00 pm
Memphis Area Archives Committee
Two Doors Down
1578 Yorkshire



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Monday - Friday: 8 am - 4 pm
Closed for lunch daily from 1 pm - 2 pm

The MAIA Intergroup Representatives business meeting is held on the second Sunday of every month at 1:00 p.m. Please join us on April 14, 2024 at Leawood Baptist Church, 3638 Macon Road, Memphis, TN 38122, or join online (ID 83597502608) passcode 76237.)

BECOME A HIGH FIVER

Memphis Area Intergroup has been the link between the A.A. recovery community and the newcomer and, even as importantly, with one another since 1960. Many of us are grateful to the office for its helping hand, but have either not known that Intergroup needs our support, or our contributions have been put off due to our new busy and happy lives. "High Fivers" is a way we have found to allow members to show their gratitude by making sure the services provided by the office continues. High Fivers is a program of commitment; we commit to a \$5.00 contribution per month, either monthly, quarterly, or annually. Contact our office with details on the ways with which you can submit your monetary contributions. Intergroup, in return, will send an acknowledgement for your contributions at the end of each calendar year. These contributions are tax deductible. As an expression of gratitude, you will receive a hard copy of this newsletter in the mail each month.

SCAN TO CONTRIBUTE TO MAIA



The Seventh Tradition states: "Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions." While contributions cover each group's rent and other expenses, the Seventh Tradition is essential at every level of A.A. service. It is both a privilege and a responsibility for groups and members to ensure that not only their group, but also their intergroup/central office, local services, district, area, and the General Service Office remain self-supporting. In keeping with A.A.'s Seventh Tradition of self-support, we accept contributions only from A.A. members.



Central Gardens

Margaret B 17yrs
Walter S 11yrs
Betty G 44yrs
Caroline N 36yrs

Three-Legged Stool

Don A. 35yrs
Lee R. 6yrs

Traditions

Milton Mc. 51yrs
Paulette O. 29 yrs
Stacie B. 13yrs
Victoria G. 8yrs
Debbie C. 11yrs

Winchester

Ed S. 30yrs
Jason S. 15yrs



The Importance of The 4th Step

The third step is not complete until we put the pen to paper in Step Four. It is a true test of your willingness to make a beginning in trusting God. The third step states "We Turned our Will and Our Lives Over to The Care of God". Our Will= thoughts and Our Life = Actions (Pg.60). Simply, it is our thoughts that dictate and bring life to our actions and our behaviors, and we must shed light on these things if we are to recover.

So, if we could sum up all of recovery into one word, it would be CHANGE. And the change in our lives is first brought about by a change in our old ways of thinking and living. Remember, in step one we are informed that the main problem of the Alcoholic centers in his mind (Pg.23). Our flawed way of thinking is where the obsession to drink begins.

If I am truly ready to change then I must honestly ask myself "Am I willing to get honest about this with MYSELF and my CREATOR through the rigorous action of taking a thorough and fearless moral inventory of my resentments, my fears and my flaws?"

The 4th Step is simply just a "list" of our injuries, parts of self & character defects (Pg.65). This is where the alcoholic first begins to take their looks and thoughts inward because after all this 12-Step journey we are on is an Inside Job. We do not stall; we do not balk if we are truly ready. This step is between you and God, and after all, God already knows it all, so there is nothing left to fear in the Fourth Step aside from the lies that fear itself will tell us.

Once our list is full and complete, making sure we have withheld nothing and have added to our paper all that we can remember, all the way back from the very beginning of our lives (yes, you have to add that resentment you had in the third grade over your witchy teacher) we are ready to take it to another human being in the following step, (which will more than likely be our sponsor). It is imperative that we remember the significant importance of the 4th step and the vital importance of holding onto it and keeping it in a safe place. We are sure not to dispose of this list or burn it for the Big Book tells us that "we refer back to our list for it holds the key to the future" (Pg.66). This list will be used for the following step and the proceeding steps which concern your future amends.

The fourth step is of paramount importance in making the critical change in our old behaviors and in our old way of thinking. Having the opportunity to see ourselves in black & white is an exclusive spiritual experience unlike any other.

Now, who is ready to embark on the most important clean up act of your life? It's time to trust God and clean house so that you may one day soon help others.

-Bianca M.

*Smiles are free,
so share them.*



Step Four: Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

Tradition Four: Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.

Concept IV

Throughout our Conference structure, we ought to maintain at all responsible levels a traditional "Right of Participation," taking care that each classification or group of our world servants shall be allowed a voting representation in reasonable proportion to the responsibility that each must discharge.



meetings. They are invited because of A.A.'s "Right of Participation." Thus, the trustees and directors "are put into direct communication with these workers, who . . . feel wanted and needed. Although they do not vote, these workers may freely participate."

Bill warns against the possibility of new delegates or trustees trying to "weaken, modify or toss out" the "Right of Participation." He cites arguments by delegates to take away the trustees', directors' and staff members' vote at the Conference. "Certainly," he says, "our trustees and service workers are not less conscientious, experienced and wise than the delegates."

"It is vital," he continues, "to preserve the traditional 'Right of Participation,' in the face of every tendency to whittle it down."

Finally, there is a spiritual reason for the "Right of Participation." All of us desire to belong. In A.A., no members are "second class." The "Right of Participation" therefore reinforces Tradition Two, that no member is placed in "ultimate authority" over another. We perform our service tasks better "when we are sure we belong — when our 'participation' assures us we are truly the 'trusted servants' described in Tradition Two."



TRADITION 4 CHECKLIST

Below is a snapshot inventory you can take to see how well you are honoring the spiritual principle found in this Tradition (in and out of the rooms of A.A.).

(The foundation of this inventory is from the A.A. Tradition's Checklist first published in the A.A. Grapevine)

Do I insist that there are only a few right ways of doing things in AA?

Does my group always consider the welfare of the rest of AA? Of nearby groups? Of Loners in Alaska? Of Internationalists miles from port? Of a group in Rome or El Salvador?

Do I put down other members' behavior when it is different from mine, or do I learn from it?

Do I always bear in mind that, to those outsiders who know I am in AA, I may to some extent represent our entire beloved Fellowship?

Am I willing to help a newcomer go to any lengths—his lengths, not mine—to stay sober?

Do I share my knowledge of AA tools with other members who may not have heard of them?

What "questions" could we ask ourselves before we make a decision to use our autonomy?

Does autonomy excuse or justify improper behavior?

The principle of "Right of Participation" is built into the General Service Conference through the Conference Charter. Voting members include not only delegates, but also the trustees, and the directors and staff members of A.A. World Services (i.e., GSO) and the AA Grapevine.

In the same way, the boards of these two operating entities include as voting members not only trustees, but also nontrustee directors and paid administrators and staff members.

The chairperson of the General Service Board appoints nontrustee members to the standing committees in order to have the advantage of their expertise, and staff members serve as committee secretaries. "There are no 'superiors,' no 'inferiors,' and no 'advisers.'" New trustees on the General Service Board and new directors of the AAWS and Grapevine boards are sometimes surprised to see paid executives, staff members and outside accountants attending the board



ARI-11\ DPARTMNT:

1939- In 1939, when she was 35 years old, Marty Mann attended her first Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. While she wasn't the first ever woman to join AA -that was "Lil" – she was the first woman to achieve continuous sobriety from the program. Mann was born in Chicago to an upper-middle-class family in 1904.

TI-IIS DAY N AA I-HISTORY (APRIL::

April 1st, 1939-The Big Book was Published.

April 3rd, 1941-First Florida AA Meeting was held.

April 4th, 1960- The Chicago Daily News reported that Fr. Edward Dowling, Jesuit Priest who helped start the first AA group in St. Louis, had died at age 62.

April 7th, 1941-Ruth Hock reported there were 1,500 letters asking for help, as a result of the Saturday Evening Post Article by Jack Alexander.

April 10th, 1939- The first ten copies of the Big Book arrived at the office Bill shared with Hank Parkhurst in Newark, New Jersey.

April 11th, 1938- Alcoholic Foundation held its first meeting.

April 11th, 1939- Marty Mann attended her first meeting at the home of Bill and Lois Wilson in Brooklyn.

April 11th, 1941- Bill and Lois Wilson moved into their new home, Stepping Stones.

April 12th, 1942- The Windsor Daily Star in Ontario, Canada, reported that over 400 AA's attended a testimonial dinner for Dr. Bob

April 16th, 1940- A sober Rollie Helmsley caught the only opening day no-hitter in baseball history since 1909.

April 17th, 1941- 2nd group in Los Angeles, the "Hole in the Ground Group" was formed.

April 22nd, 1940- Bill Wilson transferred his Works Publishing Stock to the Alcoholic Foundation. The date on which Hank Parkhurst transferred his stock is uncertain.

April 23rd, 1940- Dr. Bob wrote the Trustees to refuse Big Book royalties, but Bill Wilson insisted on them for Dr. Bob and Anne.

April 24th, 1989- Dr. Leonard Strong died. He was Bill's brother-in-law and an AA Trustee.

April 26th, 1939- Bill & Lois Wilson moved in with Hank Parkhurst after the bank foreclosed on 182 Clinton St. This was the first of over 50 moves before they acquired Stepping Stones.

April 30th, 1989 - The film "My Name is Bill W.," a Hallmark Hall of Fame presentation, was broadcast at 9p.m. on ABC TV.

"If I don't have my sobriety, then I have nothing."

STEP FOUR: Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.



ON A MISSION

I walked through the doors of AA on September 19, 2011. I remember the date clearly. The night before I had blacked out once again, making a fool of myself, hurting those closest to me. I woke up that morning with incomprehensible demoralization. I knew I had to stop drinking.

I got a sponsor, a home group and a Big Book. People in meetings suggested that I go to 90 meetings in 90 days and read the book. And that's exactly what I did. I worked the first three Steps and felt great. Work was better, my relationship with my wife was better, life was better. It was the first time in a long time that I could remember being OK with being alive.

That's when my sponsor suggested I do my Fourth Step. It looked scary to me, not because of what I would have to write down, but because I was terrified I'd do it wrong and look stupid. I couldn't face sharing those fears with anyone, so I just didn't do my Fourth Step. I figured I'd just go to meetings and try to be a good person. I convinced myself that I'd remain sober. My sponsor warned me that if I didn't do the Fourth and Fifth Steps I would possibly relapse. I thought he was being a jerk.

One Saturday I left my AA meeting with no thought at all of drinking. Within two blocks the thought that a beer would be nice suddenly came into my mind. The next thing I knew it was Friday night and I was driving to my hometown with a handgun to shoot my little brother in the head. He had called me and was upset that I had gone to our parents' house and created a drunken scene there that caused a lot of pain and heartache. He said I had broken my dad's heart and created such a scene that

my mom had to go to the ER with intense chest pains. I'm so thankful that I did not make it back to my hometown that night to "deal" with my brother.

When I woke the next morning, I was once again a broken man, crying into the arms of my wife. I pleaded with God to take my life. Instead, God gave me the courage to pick up the phone and call the man who had foretold my future-the man who told me I might relapse. He was someone with a real answer. That man dropped everything that Saturday morning and came to my apartment. He walked with me through the hell I was going through.

As I look back over that relapse, I realize how divinely ordered my life is. I know that God is working everything out. I was afraid of going back to AA because I felt like a phony. I had let everyone down. I was afraid that I'd be judged a failure. But when I walked back into my home group, I was received with open arms, without judgment. I learned from my sponsor and the oldtimers-and now from my own experience-how vitally important the Steps are, all of them.

One of the most beautiful moments in my life followed that relapse. The day I walked back into AA I learned an important lesson: AA members are loving and kind, and they don't shoot their wounded. They carry you through the pain and wounds until you can walk again.

The man I called sponsor dropped everything that morning and came and sat with me and talked me from the ledge. He never asked me for anything. As he left my apartment that morning, he gave me a hug. He said he was glad I called and that he loved me. Through my painful relapse I got to learn the most important lesson ever: Love heals the broken

BY: BILL B. | TAHLEQUAH, OKLA



Mar-24

GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS

	<u>Mar 24</u>	<u>Mar 23</u>	<u>Jan - Mar 24</u>
Any Length Group	0.00	25.00	35.00
Bluff City Group	0.00	0.00	0.37
Came to Believe Group	0.00	0.00	150.00
Central Gardens Group	50.00	50.00	150.00
Collierville Group	0.00	0.00	459.00
Committee - Archives	50.00	0.00	50.00
Covington	0.00	25.00	25.00
Downtown Nooners N/S	100.00	0.00	100.00
Downtown Thursday Night Group	637.27	0.00	637.27
Eudora	50.00	0.00	50.00
Friends of Bill W	0.00	0.00	200.00
Germantown Noon	269.25	190.00	629.54
Horn Lake	5.00	0.00	5.00
Lakeland	0.00	0.00	112.50
Midtown Group	0.00	11.22	0.00
Morning Glories	0.00	0.00	43.00
Neshoba Awakening	0.00	10.00	10.00
New Start	0.00	0.00	25.00
Out-of-Towners Fellowship Group	0.00	45.00	0.00
Pleasant Hill	0.00	0.00	302.15
Pride and Principles	125.00	20.00	125.00
Primary Purpose	50.00	50.00	150.00
Real Deal	0.00	20.00	5.00
Rule-62	0.00	0.00	162.50
Second Chance	50.00	0.00	150.00
SERCYPAA	0.00	0.00	2,995.41
Seriously Sober	0.00	1.89	11.22
Shady Ladies	300.00	100.00	600.00
Sober Journey	300.00	0.00	300.00
South Memphis	0.00	10.00	20.00
The Nooner	0.00	393.13	251.89
Three Legged Stool	0.00	0.00	50.00
Traditions	0.00	50.00	0.00
Two Doors Down	300.00	300.00	900.00
Unity Group	0.00	0.00	317.10
WAAGL	100.00	100.00	300.00
West Memphis Group	100.00	0.00	100.00
Whitehaven Morning Sunrisers-	50.00	0.00	50.00
Winchester	0.00	0.00	167.50
TOTAL	<u><u>2,536.52</u></u>	<u><u>1,401.24</u></u>	<u><u>9,639.45</u></u>



OUR TWELVE STEPS

Members share experience, strength and hope as they work the AA program

A brand-new collection of stories from AA members about the joys and challenges of working the program's Twelve Steps of Recovery. Each chapter illuminates a different Step through the experiences of a wide variety of AA members. This volume features all-new, up-to-date stories from the pages of Grapevine, the International Journal of Alcoholics Anonymous. Great for sponsees and AA Step meetings.

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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!

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____

