

# Flint Area Unity Council

## ~ Newsletter ~

F.A.U.C. Website: [www.geneseecountyaa.org](http://www.geneseecountyaa.org)

The A.A.W.S. licensed Smart Phone Meeting Guide app has all Flint Area A.A. Meetings on it and is available for free. →



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A.A. Help Line

(810) 234-0815

Founder's Day info at Group *NEWS*

“Since the Fellowship of A.A. was founded in 1935 it has grown from two members to over 2,000,000. With more than 118,000 groups located in over 180 countries, a broad range of services have developed to help support and guide alcoholics in recovery”.

From the pamphlet P-18, “Inside A.A. - Understanding the Fellowship and its Services”. Reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

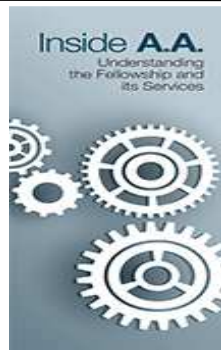


Image from pamphlet F-168; “Country to Country”, used with A.A.W.S. permission.

### CONCEPT VI

By [Lifeline Editor May 30,](#)

[2012 Lifeline Concepts, June 2012](#) (an excerpt).

“On behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principle responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous.

“So, who are these Trustees we have trusted with such authority? They fall into two categories; members of the service structure sometimes refer to the trustees as Class A – Amateurs and Class B – Boozers. Class A Trustees, as per the Service Manual, ‘shall be persons who are not and have not been afflicted by the disease of alcoholism and who express a profound faith in the recovery program upon which the fellowship of Alcoholics Anonymous is founded.’ They include members of professions such as medicine, law, clergy, finance, or any other field which may from time to time have occasion to work with alcoholics, and whose personal and/or professional expertise and dedication can be invaluable to our fellowship.

“Class B Trustees are sober AA members who have been nominated through our General Service areas and usually are members who have been deeply involved in AA service.”

~ Mickey H., Past Delegate, Panel 49

### PRINCIPLE OF CONCEPT VI

The principle of Concept VI is Responsibility.

Bill W. talked and wrote about responsibility as being one of the important facets of A.A.

In a 1960 letter he wrote, “Some strongly object to the A.A. position that alcoholism is an illness. This concept, they feel, removes moral responsibility from alcoholics. As any A.A. knows, this is far from true. We do not use the concept of sickness to absolve our members from responsibility. On the contrary, we use the fact of fatal illness to clamp the heaviest kind of moral obligation onto the sufferer, the obligation to use A.A.'s Twelve Steps to get well.”<sup>1</sup>

“All A.A. progress can be reckoned in terms of just two words; humility and responsibility.”<sup>2</sup>

“The chief purpose of A.A. is sobriety. We all realize that without sobriety we have nothing. However, it is possible to expand this simple aim into a great deal of nonsense, so far as the individual member is concerned. Sometimes we hear him say, in effect, ‘Sobriety is my sole responsibility.’”<sup>3</sup>

“The essence of all growth is a willingness to change for the better and then an unremitting willingness to shoulder whatever responsibility this entails.”<sup>4</sup>

“The readiness to take the full consequences of our past acts, and to take responsibility for the well-being of others at the same time, is the very spirit of Step Nine.”

From Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions, page 87, by Bill W. in 1952, reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

So we have a background and understanding of individual responsibility in A.A.; how it applies to A.A. as a whole is discussed in Concept VI - which means from the group(s), to the Conference, where decisions for A.A. as a whole are initiated. - Doug G.

From As Bill Sees It, <sup>1</sup> page 32, <sup>2</sup> page 271, <sup>3</sup> page 94, <sup>4</sup> page 61, reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

## CONCEPT VI SHORT FORM

"The Conference recognizes that the chief initiative and active responsibility in most world service matters should be exercised by the trustee members of the Conference acting as the General Service Board." 2018 – 2020 Edition of The A.A. Service Manual Combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service, Page S116. Reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

## CONCEPT VI LONG FORM

"On behalf of A.A. as a whole, our General Service Conference has the principal responsibility for the maintenance of our world services, and it traditionally has the final decision respecting large matters of general policy and finance. But the Conference also recognizes that the chief initiative and the active responsibility in most of these matters should be exercised primarily by the Trustee members of the Conference when they act among themselves as the General Service Board of Alcoholics Anonymous." Pamphlet SMF-195, The Twelve Concepts for World Service, Page 1. Reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

## CONCEPT VI EXPLAINED

"Just as the groups must as a practical matter delegate much of their authority to the Conference, so the Conference must delegate much of its authority to the Trustees; otherwise the Trustees would be unable to act in the absence of the Conference. In essence, AA operates like a corporation with the groups being stockholders who elect Delegates who act on their behalf at the 'Annual Meeting' or Conference. The General Service Board Trustees are essentially the directors of the 'holding company' that owns and controls the subsidiaries that actually carry on much of the work of AA."

Pamphlet P-8, The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated, Page 12. Reprint with A.A.W.S. permission.

That was a mouthful of an explanation; try this, A.A. authority flows to the Trustees who direct the General Service Board as to how it works at the Fellowship level. ~ Doug G.

## CONCEPT VI CHECKLIST

(Service Material from the General Service Office).

- Are we familiar with how our General Service Board (G.S.B.) Class A and Class B trustees serve A.A.? Are we familiar with how our other trusted servants serve A.A.?
- Are we clear about the terms, "chief initiative" and "active responsibility"? Can we see a direct link to our home group?

From: [https://www.aa.org/assets/en\\_US/smf-91\\_en.pdf](https://www.aa.org/assets/en_US/smf-91_en.pdf)

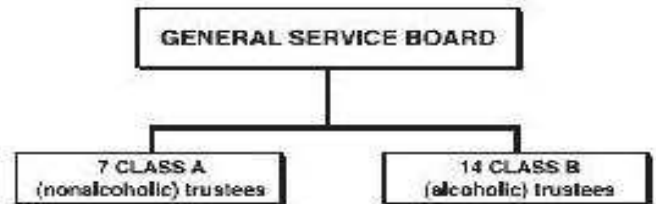


Illustration from page S65, 2018 – 2020 Edition of The A.A. Service Manual Combined with Twelve Concepts for World Service. Reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

**The why and wherefore of Checklist terms and questions.**

A 'chief initiative' is an act or strategy intended to resolve a difficulty or improve a situation; a fresh approach to something.

'Active responsibility' is the involvement in an activity related to community, often connected with duties and obligations.

Does the group see that without active GSR's there is no direction given to Delegates who act in the groups behalf at the Conference?



**Let me try to understand this? You don't show initiative because I never told you to?**



**WHY YOU LAUGHING?**



### **FLINT AREA UNITY COUNCIL AIMS AND PURPOSES**

- 1) To promote Unity among Flint Area A.A., and harmony with Al-Anon and Ala-teen groups.
- 9) The Council will create service committees and be financially responsible for them.

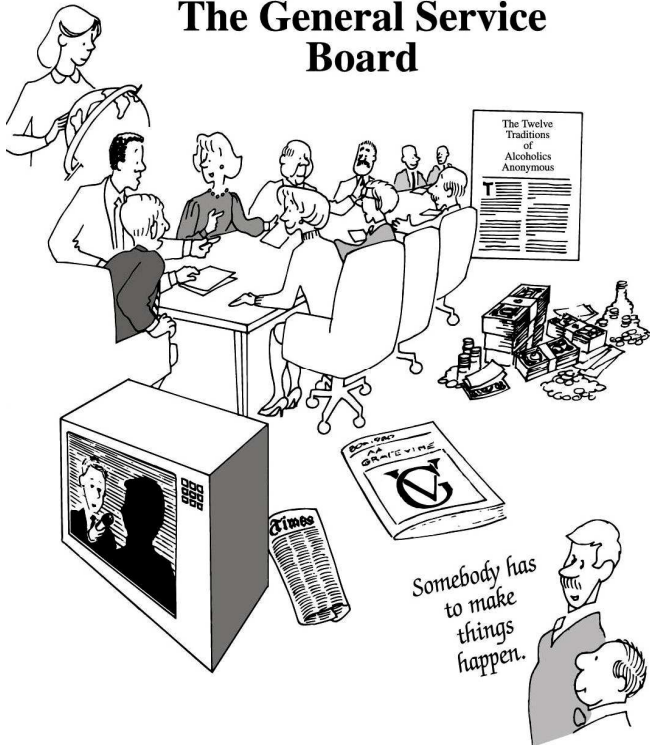
The **F.A.U.C. Aims and Purposes with Election Procedures** is on the website [www.geneseecountyaa.org](http://www.geneseecountyaa.org).

"Any group or district of the Fellowship is free to use the symbol of a circle and triangle on newsletters, meeting schedules or other A.A. material."

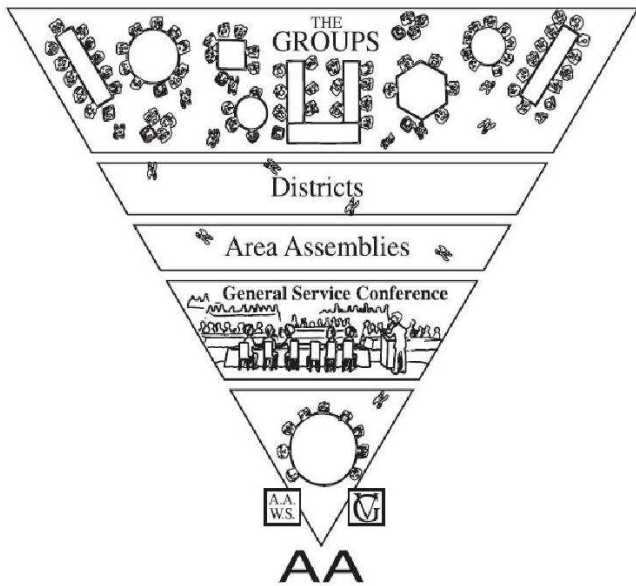
From "The A.A. SERVICE MANUAL Combined With the TWELVE CONCEPTS for WORLD SERVICE" by Bill W. page S41, reprinted by permission of A.A.W.S.

CONCEPT VI  
 “GENERAL SERVICE BOARD  
 acts at the CONFERENCE”

The General Service Board



Pamphlet P-8, The Twelve Concepts for World Service Illustrated, Page 13 and below, Page 3.  
 Reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.



“Our house, it’s a very very very fine house.”  
 ~  
 Graham Nash.



NO GLUM LOT HERE



You can not escape the tomorrow’s responsibility(s) by evading them today.

Boss during employee meeting, “It’s my fault I didn’t realize how badly you were all screwing up.”

Every tub has to sit on its own bottom.

A computer is almost human - except that it does not blame its mistakes on another computer.

I told my wife to be responsible; embrace her mistakes. So then she gave me a hug.

If your phone doesn’t ring, it’s me.

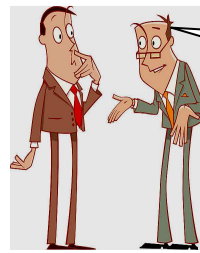
Silence is golden, duct tape is silver.

It’s called Almond Milk because nobody can say Nut Juice with a straight face.

Cop: **DO YOU** know how fast you were going?

Me: I kinda feel like that’s **YOUR JOB..**

**TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUR OWN ACTIONS**



That sort of thing just makes me procrastinate.

Ned & Jed



Say Jed; have you any idea who The General Service Board Trustees are?

Well no. Don’t trustees work at the jail? In da U.P. those guys are good prisoners and get to work outside.



Do tell... As choppers, A’s are amateurs and B’s are boozers.

Do tell, not what we are talking about here. Trustees are in two classes, A & B.

I took readin’, writin, and ‘rithmetic classes.

Well, I’m an A until I get to B.

Do tell... Its guys like us why those Trustees are needed; the non paid responsible volunteers as ‘trusted servants’ to keep things running right.



**F.A.U.C. Committees; Officers & Chairs.**

Committee Chairs with names. (Visit the website [www.geneseecountyaa.org](http://www.geneseecountyaa.org) to email the F.A.U.C.).

**F.A.U.C. Chair:** Michelle A.

**F.A.U.C. Secretary:** Aaron B.

**Pass The Hat Assoc. Treasurer (PTHA):** George W.  
**Alternate:** Gordon G.

**Accessibility for All Alcoholics:** Ruth H.

**A.A. Answering Service:** Wayne T.

**PI-Public Information:** Gordon G.

**CPC- Cooperation with the Professional Community:** Gordon G.

**Corrections:** Chris R. **Grapevine:** Greg S.

**Literature/Meeting Books/Newsletter:** James P.

**Treatment:** Kamesha M. **Website:** Doug G.

**Young People:** OPEN

**F.A.U.C. Newsletter**

Editor: Doug G. Co-Editors: Mike J., Drew K.

**Newsletter Distributors**

Bob W, Carl D, Chris R, Doug G, Drew K,  
Gordon G, Jack B, James P, Jared B, Jerry S,  
Kamesha M, Kelly S, Tom S.

The May 2020 Newsletter was sent to 109 emails. If you want a Newsletter via email, send Editor a request at [farfromittoday@aol.com](mailto:farfromittoday@aol.com).

**2020 F.A.U.C. Meetings; Date: Place: Host Group.**

**Next F.A.U.C. Meeting:** Meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month; 11:30 am Committee Meetings with a 12:30 pm General Assembly.

**June20:** OPEN

**July18:** Clover School, Lapeer

**August 15:** OPEN

**September 19:** St John the Baptist Episcopal Church, Otter Lake Group

**October 17:** Arid Club, Women in A.A.

**November 21:** Arid Club, New Strength

**December 19:** Local 659, Van Slyke Group

**The June F.A.U.C. Meeting will be either a 'Brick & Mortar' or a Zoom Meeting (again). Please visit the F.A.U.C. website for updates.**

**A.A Treasurer's addresses:**

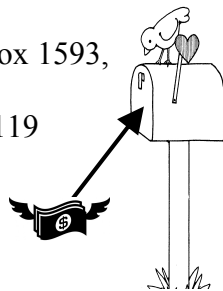
A.A.W.S., Inc., P.O. Box 459, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163

C.M.I.A. 32, % kdonoghue PO Box 1593, Midland MI 48641

F.A.U.C. 4225 Miller Rd. Suite 119

Flint, MI 48507 Please make checks payable to

**Pass The Hat Association, Inc.**



**Group NEWS**

A.A. International Convention, Detroit, MI, July 2 -5, 2020 has been CANCELLED.

**Flint Arid Club, Otisville, Thetford OPEN for meetings. Following Social Distancing and Masks precautions.**

CMIA32 meeting on Sunday, June 7th will be a Zoom Meeting, Call in: +3126266799, Meeting ID: 894 5954 5514. Agenda is on [www.cmia32.org](http://www.cmia32.org).

A.A.'s Founder's Day 2020 has been CANCELLED. June 13, 14 is a virtual event at <https://foundersday.org/>

The 2020 Sober Canoe Trip is August 7, 8, 9 in Evart. Details on [www.geneseecountyaa.org](http://www.geneseecountyaa.org).

MCYPAA 41, November 22-24, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Detroit, MI.

Email announcements to [farfromittoday@aol.com](mailto:farfromittoday@aol.com).

**June 2020 Flint Area Open Speaker Meetings \***

\* = Addresses of Locations can be found in the 2020 Flint Area Groups Meeting Book. (Page #).

- Thu 4 7 pm Van Slyke (16).
- Fri 5 12 noon, Eye Opener, Arid Club (18).  
8 pm, Fenton Alano (19).  
8:00 pm Clover School Lapeer (19).
- Sat 6 7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's (21).  
7:30 pm Episcopal Church Owosso (21).  
8 pm St Jude's Fenton (21).
- Sun 7 7 pm St Andrews (6).  
7:30 pm Torrey Road Grp Arid Club (6).
- Fri 12 8 pm Fenton Alano (19).  
8:00 pm Clover School Lapeer (19).
- Sat 13 7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's (21).  
7:30 pm Episcopal Church Owosso (21).  
8 pm St Jude's Fenton (21).
- Sun 14 7 pm St Andrews (6).  
7:30 pm Torrey Road Grp Arid Club (6).
- Fri 19 8 pm Fenton Alano (19).  
8:00 pm Clover School Lapeer (19).
- Sat 20 7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's (21).  
7:30 pm Episcopal Church Owosso (21).  
8 pm St Jude's Fenton (21).
- Sun 21 6 pm Otter Lake (6).  
7 pm St Andrews (6).  
7:30 pm Torrey Road Grp Arid Club (6).
- Fri 26 8 pm Fenton Alano (19).  
8:00 pm Clover School Lapeer (19).
- Sat 27 11 am Oak Park (20).  
\*\* 7 pm Thetford (21). With a POTLUCK  
7:30 pm Eastside St Mary's (21).  
7:30 pm Episcopal Church Owosso (21).  
8 pm St Jude's Fenton (21).
- Sun 28 7 pm St Andrews (6).  
7:30 pm Torrey Road Grp Arid Club (6).
- Mon 29 7 pm Montrose HOPE (9)

If everywhere you go there's a problem... Guess what? It's adorable how you blame everybody but yourself. Wise people think all they say, fools say all they think. Woke up on the ground this morning. Must have fallen asleep.