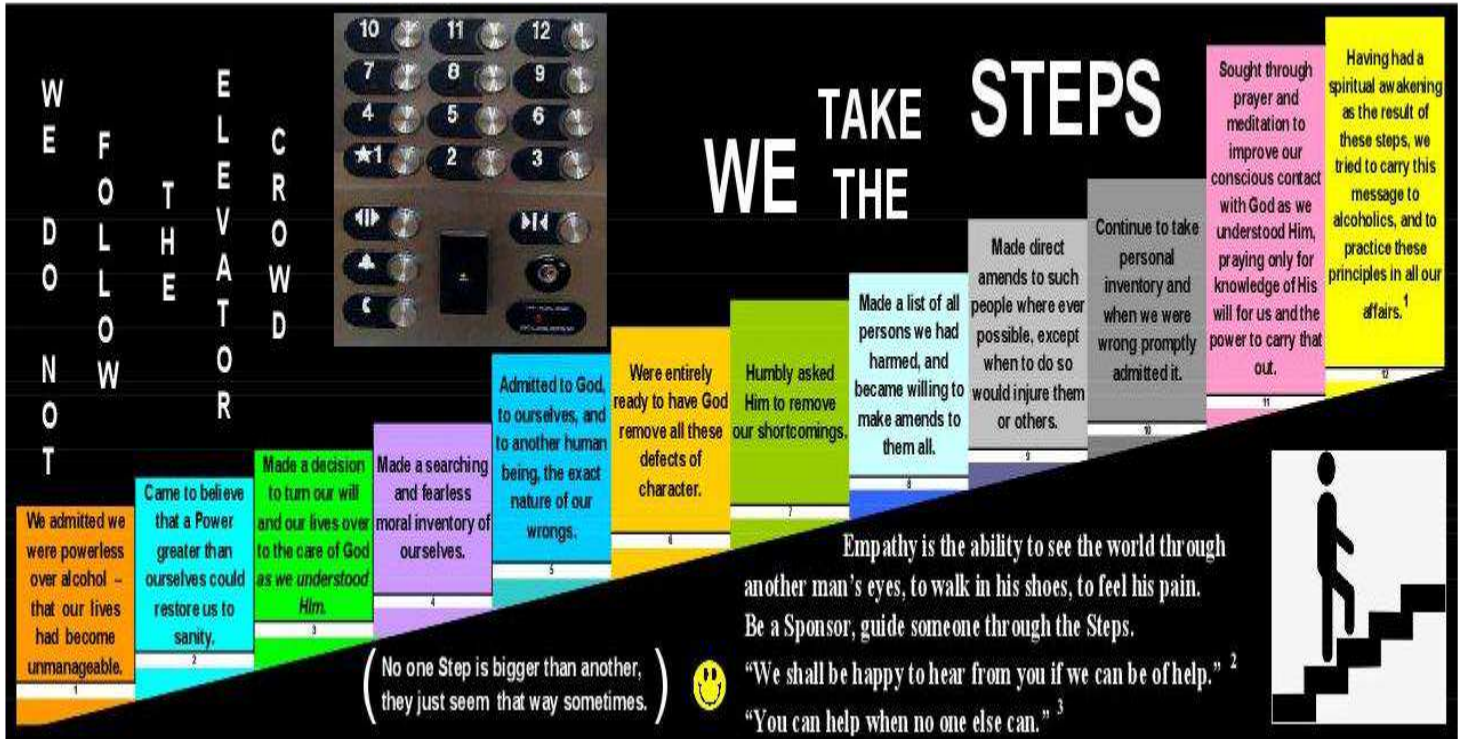




~ ~ - Newsletter - ~ ~

The F.A.U.C. Website is www.geneseecountyaa.org
Newsletter at <https://geneseecountyaa.org/f-a-u-c-newsletter>

The A.A.W.S. licensed Smart Phone Meeting Guide app
has Flint Area A.A. Meetings and is free at the app store.



WE TAKE THE STEPS

WE DO NOT FOLLOW THE CROWD

1 We admitted we were powerless over alcohol - that our lives had become unmanageable.

2 Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

3 Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.

4 Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.

5 Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being, the exact nature of our wrongs.

6 Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.

7 Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.

8 Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.

9 Made direct amends to such people where ever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

10 Continue to take personal inventory and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.

11 Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood Him, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.

12 Having had a spiritual awakening as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practice these principles in all our affairs.¹

Empathy is the ability to see the world through another man's eyes, to walk in his shoes, to feel his pain. Be a Sponsor, guide someone through the Steps.

"We shall be happy to hear from you if we can be of help."²

"You can help when no one else can."³

(No one Step is bigger than another, they just seem that way sometimes.)

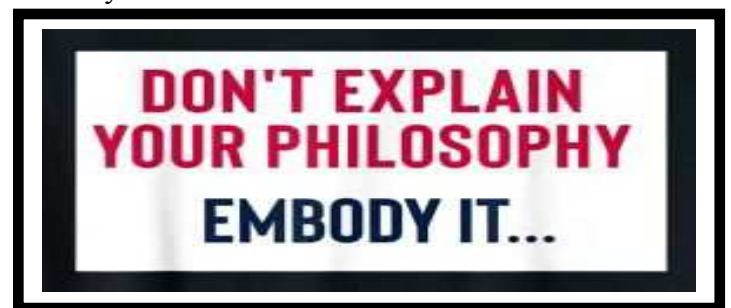
It is the third month of the year already. Are you still putting the year as 2021 instead of 2022? Changes come at us all the time and we must adapt to them as they come to remain current. This is the same for our new lifestyle. Everyday usually brings something new to us. This is normal. This is good. Being creatures of habit though, it can present challenges. Habits can be of short term memory; others are of long term memory. Some come at us straight out of left field or unforeseen, something the astronomers say is a new discovery. Whoever spots it first is a discoverer. So we get up everyday and look in the mirror, what do we discover about ourself?

Step Three: "Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him."⁴

Tradition Three: "The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking."⁵

Concept III: "As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision".⁶

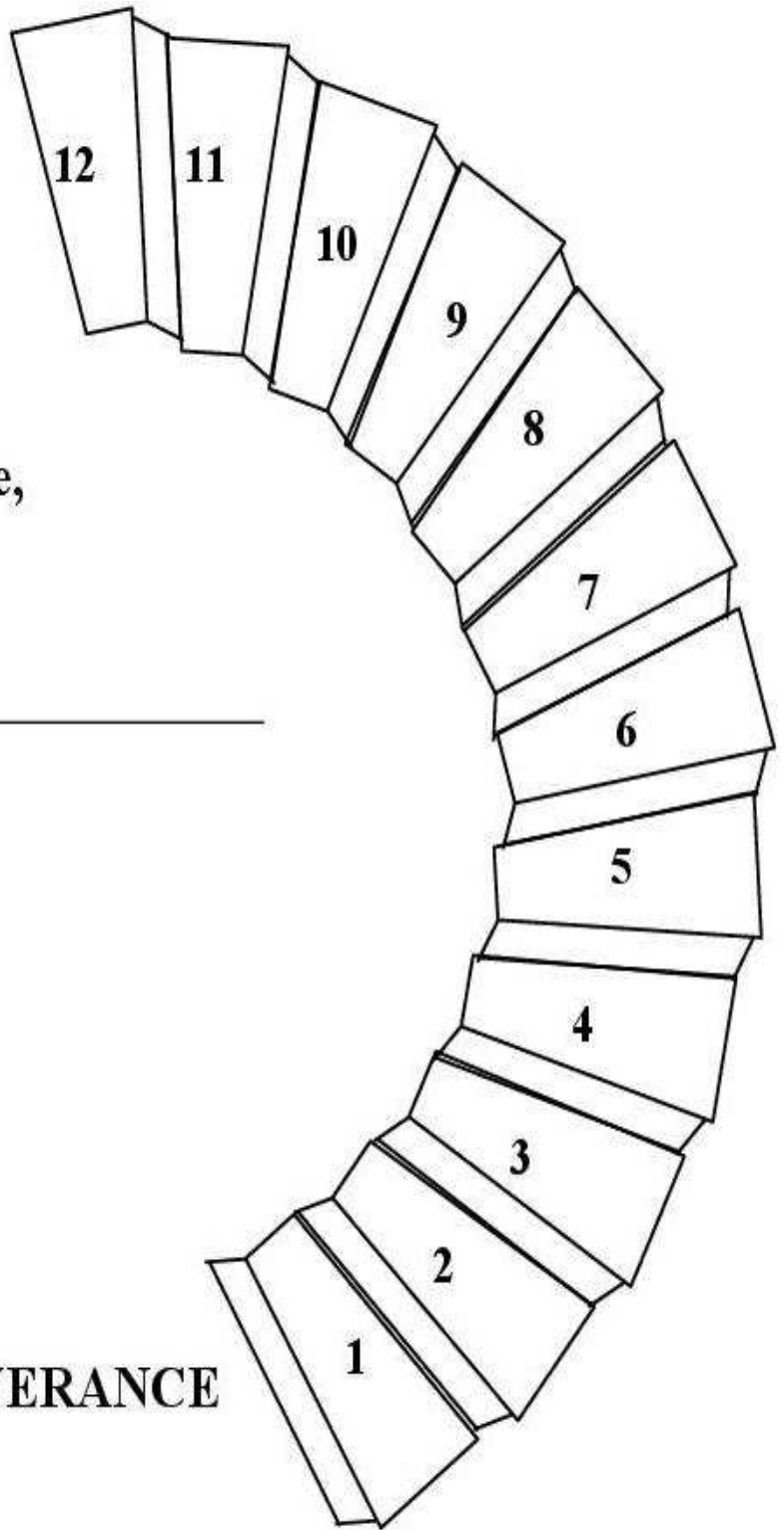
Warranty Three: "None of the Conference members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others."⁷



- ¹ Alcoholics Anonymous, HOW IT WORKS, pages 59-60, all Twelve Steps.
- ² Alcoholics Anonymous, TO EMPLOYERS, page 150.
- ³ Alcoholics Anonymous, WORKING WITH OTHERS, page 89.
- ⁴ Alcoholics Anonymous, HOW IT WORKS, page 59.
- ⁵ Alcoholics Anonymous, APPENDIX I, THE TWELVE TRADITIONS, page 562.
- ⁶ Alcoholics Anonymous, APPENDIX VII, THE TWELVE CONCEPTS (SHORT FORM), page 574.
- ⁷ THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL combined with TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE, 2021-2023 Edition, page C52.

**The Twelve Steps
Spiritual Principles;
Meaning the
Psychic Changes
we go through in
working the Steps.
See the Spiritual Experience,
Page 567 of the book
Alcoholics Anonymous
in relation to change(s).**

-
- 1. HONESTY**
 - 2. HOPE**
 - 3. FAITH**
 - 4. COURAGE**
 - 5. INTEGRITY**
 - 6. WILLINGNESS**
 - 7. HUMILITY**
 - 8. LOVE**
 - 9. DISCIPLINE**
 - 10. PATIENCE/PERSEVERANCE**
 - 11. AWARENESS**
 - 12. SERVICE**



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.

The circle/triangle symbol of A.A. that was used for many years has been removed from this Newsletter in accordance with the following statement by A.A. "In 1993, Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. announced that official use of all of the several circle/triangle trademarks and service marks was being discontinued."

From "THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL combined with TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE" 2021- 2023 by Bill W. page 64, reprinted by permission of A.A.W.S. Please read paragraph seven on page 64 to understand this change.

The lady left her office, stopped by a drug store to buy some medication for her daughter. She was in a hurry, didn't realize that the keys of the car were inside the locked up vehicle until she tried to get back in.

Desperate, she called home and told the baby sitter what had happened. The young baby sitter told her that her daughter's fever was getting worse and advised her to use a coat hanger to try to open the door and get home as soon as possible.

Knowing how difficult finding such a tool in her situation might be, the mother started praying. A couple of minutes later, she thanked God after seeing an old rusty coat hanger on the ground. Even though the lady found the tool, she looked at it and said, "I don't know how to use this," so, she bowed her head again and asked God to send her some help.

Within five minutes, an old, rusty, noisy car pulled up. A dirty, greasy, bearded man who was wearing an old biker skull rag on his head got out of it and asked the lady if he could help her. The woman thought, "Is this who you sent to help me, God?" But she was desperate, so she was also very thankful. The woman replied, "Yes, my daughter is very sick. I stopped here to get her meds, and I left the keys inside the car. Could you please use this hanger to open the door?" The man replied, "Sure."

Less than a minute later, the car was opened. The mother hugged her savior and, through tears, she said, "Thank you so much! You are a very nice man."

The unknown person laughed and said, "Miss, I am not a nice man. I just got out of prison last week. I was in jail for car theft and just stopped to maybe take your nicer car."

The woman hugged the man again and, with sobbing tears, cried out loud, "Oh, Thank you, God! You even sent me a professional!"

Moral of the story? Not all is as it seems.



NO GLUM LOT HERE



A "shortcoming" is like a flat tire. A "character defect" is like driving on it.

www.soberadvertising.com

Unfortunately; been there, done that, but on two flats. Spent the rest of the night in jail... And not because of flat tires either.

A lady driving on the Interstate gets a flat tire and eases over onto the shoulder of the road. She gets out of the car and opens the trunk.

She then takes out two cardboard men, unfolds them and stands them at the rear of the vehicle facing oncoming traffic. The caricatures appear naked in open trench coats.

The traffic became snarled from gawkers. It wasn't long before a police car arrives. The Officer approaches the lady of the disabled vehicle asking, "What is going on here?"

"My car broke down, Officer" says the woman, calmly.

"Well, what the hell are these obscene cardboard pictures doing here by the road?!" yells the Officer.

"Well, those are my emergency flashers!" she replies.

Ned & Jed (on CONCEPT & Warranty Three)

Hey Jed, you know the boss does not have absolute authority, right?
Why not? Why be the da boss then?



Still he can't see all about the forest, ya think?

Well no, but doesn't what he says always go?

That would place him in a position of unqualified authority. The choppers believe in Right of Decision. Therefore we emphasize both individuals and groups have working relationships with the boss. The boss has to listen to them all.



Well put that way, it is not every chopper alone, more like all for one and one for all.

Now you are getting it; it all comes back to our common welfare and unity.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Group NEWS

The F.A.U.C. meets March 19, 12:30 pm, hosted by the Swartz Creek PM group at St. Bartholomew's, 9252 Miller Rd., Swartz Creek.

Please note new addresses for G.S.O. and CMIA32 for donations in A.A. Treasurer's addresses bottom this page.

The March Round Up, March 4-6 is at the Motor City Casino, Detroit, MI. Flyer on page 22 of the Newsletter.

The Michigan Mock Conference is March 26th in Mt. Pleasant. A two page flyer is on pages 23 -24.

April 16th is a G.S.R. F.A.U.C. sponsored Workshop after the F.A.U.C. meeting in Thetford. Flyer on page 26.

Currently, the CMIA32 meeting on April 3 is scheduled to be a Zoom Meeting. See www.cmia32.org.

The Thetford 9 AM meetings have been discontinued. The St. Jude's Saturday 8 PM meeting has moved to the Fenton Alano Club and Opens again March 5th.

Group wants a Newsletter announcement? Email farfromittoday@aol.com by the 20th of the month.

THESE MEETINGS ARE OPEN AND LISTED ON THE WEBSITE.

March 2022 Flint Area Open Speaker Meetings *

* = Addresses of Locations can be found in the 2021 Flint Area Groups Meeting Book or on the website www.geneseecountyaa.org under the Meetings Tab.

- Thu 3 7:00 pm, Van Slyke (17).
- Fri 4 12 noon, Eye Opener, Arid Club (8).
- Sun 6 6:00 pm, Torrey Rd. Group, Arid Club (8).
- Sat 12 7:30 pm, East Side St. Mary's (6)
- Sun 13 6:00 pm, Torrey Rd. Group, Arid Club (8).
- Sat 19 7:30 pm, East Side St. Mary's (6)
- Sun 20 6:00 pm, Torrey Rd. Group, Arid Club (8).
- Sat 26 7:30 pm, East Side St. Mary's (6)
- Sun 27 6:00 pm, Torrey Rd. Group, Arid Club (8).
- Mon 28 7:00 pm, Montrose HOPE (10).

If your meeting opened for attendance with an Open Speaker, please contact farfromittoday@aol.com to list it.

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

Committee Chairs with names. (Visit the website www.geneseecountyaa.org to email the F.A.U.C.).

F.A.U.C. Chair: Jim M.

F.A.U.C. Secretary: Lynn N.

Pass The Hat Assoc. Treasurer (P.T.H.A.): Steve C.

Accessibility for All Alcoholics: OPEN

A.A. Answering Service: Wayne T.

C.P.C. - Cooperation with the Professional Community: Joe S. **Corrections:** Erica S.

Grapevine: Greg S.

Literature/Meeting Books/Newsletter: James P.

P.I. - Public Information: Erica S.

Treatment: Joshua M. **Website:** Nick E.

Young People: OPEN.

F.A.U.C. Newsletter

Editor: Doug G. Coeditors: Mike J, Tim H. Drew K.

The February 2022 Newsletter went to 185 emails. If you would like a Newsletter via email, send Editor a request to farfromittoday@aol.com.

2022 F.A.U.C. Meetings: Date: Place: Host Group

Next F.A.U.C. Meeting: Meetings are on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 12:30 pm for the General Assembly. **Host groups are encouraged to Host at their location** (but will meet at St. Mary's School if needed).

January 15: St. Mary's School, 2600 N. Franklin; Eastside

February 19: Arid Club, 715 East St., Torrey Rd. Group.

March 19: St. Bartholomew's; 9252 Miller Rd., Swartz Creek, S.C. Group.

April 16: Thetford Senior Center; Thetford A.A.

May 21: Faith Lutheran Ch., 12534 Holly Rd., Grand Blanc, Grand Blanc Big Book.

June 18 St. John's Out Reach Building, 425 Genesee St., Davison, Davison Friday Night Grp.

July 16: St. Mary's School; Eastside St. Mary's

August 20: September 17:

October 22: November 19:

December 17:

A.A Treasurer's addresses:

G.S.O. P.O. Box 2407, James A. Farley Station, New York, NY 10116-2407

C.M.I.A. 32, c/o Sherri L

635 Woodcreek Court

Saline, MI 48176

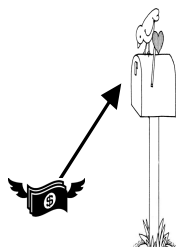
(For F.A.U.C.)

P.T.H.A, Inc. 4225 Miller Rd.

Suite 119, Flint, MI 48507

Please make checks payable to

Pass The Hat Association, Inc.



Ok, now I'm using my pencil...

By the time someone says something in the meeting worth writing down, I've likely already taken my pen apart and lost the spring.



COVID-19

DIY HOME COVID TEST

1. Open a can of beer and try to smell it.
2. If you can smell the beer, drink it to see if you can taste it.
3. If you can smell it and taste it, this confirms you **DO NOT** have COVID.

Last night I did the test 19 times and each time the results were negative.

Tonight, I am going to do the test again because this morning

- 1) I woke up with a headache.
 - 2) I feel like I'm coming down with something.
 - 3) I am very fatigued.
 - 4) I don't feel like eating.
- I AM SO NERVOUS!



PEOPLE! THIS IS A JOKE!
IT IS NOT A PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT! (PSA).
DO NOT Try This At Home!
DO NOT Try This At Your Friend's!
DO NOT Try This Anywhere!
DO NOT Consult Your Sponsor and Ask Permission To Try This Test.

This announcement is NOT an endorsement by A.A. in any way,
does not believe the idiot would even publish such garbage,
and wishes no harm to the fool either.

Tradition 10 and Concept XII (in part) are in effect:

Tradition 10: "Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues:

hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy." ^A

Concept XII: "that its actions never be personally punitive nor an incitement to public controversy..." ^B

^A Pamphlet P-43; The Twelve Traditions Illustrated, page 21.

^B Pamphlet P-8; The Twelve Concepts for World Service, page 24.

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THINK THINK THINK not REPEAT REPEAT REPEAT
BREAK THE MEMORY HABIT

Mentioned on page one of this Newsletter is the fact that habits can be of short or long term memory. Some of these habits we lose due to our new found ability to change our habits to prolong our life, maybe repair our relationships, and live a new lifestyle through absolute abstinence; because obviously, the alternative just was not working any more. This is a choice we and only we can make for ourselves. Just like nobody held me and forced me to drink, no can change me by holding and coddling me either. The change must come from within; it had to be a want of my own where I saw the need. And so I remember one of the Ninth Step Promises, "We will not regret the past, nor wish to shut the door on it."⁸ The memories of past detriments are helpful in not repeating consequences of my actions. "He may have the habit badly enough to gradually impair him physically and mentally."⁹ "I had to be, for I was hopeless."¹⁰

There are three stages of memory which will be discussed below; Sensory Memory, Short Term Memory, and Long Term Memory.

Sensory Memory comes from repetitive use of our senses; sight, hearing, taste, smell, and touch.

Our initial exposure and use of alcohol tantalizes our senses so that the smell and taste we learn to like. The cold touch of it to our tongue is pleasing, the sight of a cold old makes us want to grab it, and the sound of a beer can popped open is forever seared into our memory. It is said that forgetting occurs through decay of these sensorials. In our absolute abstinence, we achieve the decay of the senses to alcohol use.

Short term memory comes from repetition and attention to the people, places, or situations we drink in. Once again, short term memory is trained to forget through the decay of not repeating the act, and by displacing that act with something else. For example, instead of going to a bar with friends, we go the movie with family.

Long term memory comes from the storage of all these people, places, and things that occur over and over and we put those memories in a storage bin away from short term memory, to retrieve them to short term memory when we again call that memory to use. The long term memory then is decayed by our action of absolute abstinence, which short circuits the retrieval memory phase. If we don't take the first drink, then the second is not even a memory to relive.

~Editor

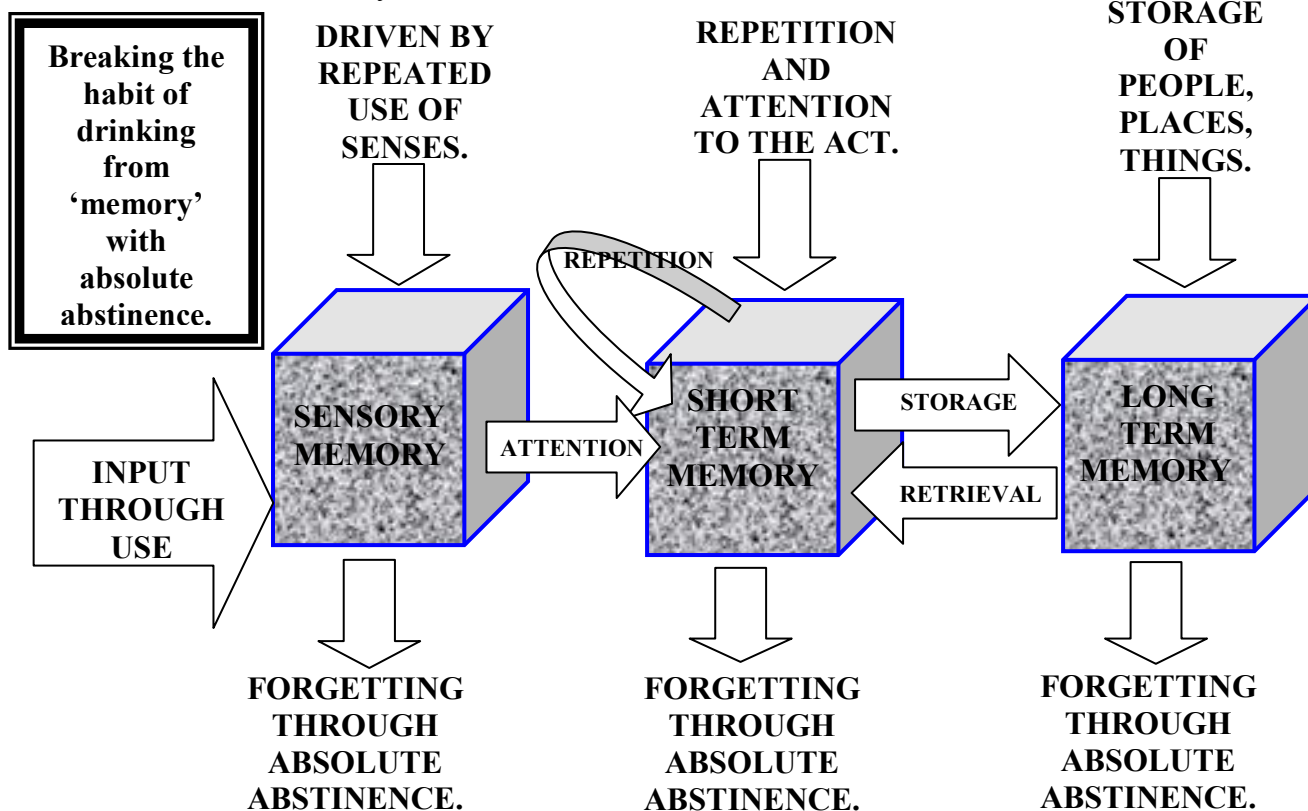


Illustration by Editor

⁸ Alcoholics Anonymous, INTO ACTION, page 83.

⁹ Alcoholics Anonymous, THERE IS A SOLUTION, page 20.

¹⁰ Alcoholics Anonymous, BILL'S STORY, page 10.

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JAIL BIRDS

Troy Michigan

Monday, January 3, 2022

A woman was pulled over in Troy, Michigan. Officers pulled the woman over at 10:22 p.m. on January 3. The 35-year-old woman came to a stop in her SUV, but put it in reverse and hit the bumper of the police squad car.

Officers said that when responding they spoke with the woman, who did not have a driver's license with her, they noticed she spoke quickly, her speech was slurred and she had difficulty concentrating when she spoke with the officers.

Police said there was a plastic cup with a blue liquid in the cup holder. When asked what the liquid was, the woman said it was her Smirnoff drink. She then allegedly poured it out on the ground.

After performing field sobriety tests, the Officers report that the woman took a breath test, showing a .107 percent blood-alcohol content. The woman was arrested and she took a chemical breath test. Officials said the second test showed results of .10 percent. The woman was charged with operating under the influence of alcohol, no operator's license on person and open intoxicant.

Glenview, Illinois

Sunday September 26, 2021

██████████, 31, of the 2500 block of Victor Avenue in Glenview, was charged with driving while under the influence of alcohol and speeding at 2:51 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 26. Police pulled him over for allegedly driving at **95 mph in a 35 mph** zone in the 8000 block of N. Milwaukee Avenue. He allegedly failed field sobriety tests and later was offered a breath test.

Claremont, California

Sunday, December 5, 2021

Two unrelated drivers who crashed into one another were both suspected of driving under the influence after colliding near Base Line Road and Wiley Ct. Claremont resident ██████████, 60, was arrested for felony DUI after police say he crashed his red 2018 Toyota into a gray 2019 Honda piloted by 29-year-old ██████████ also of Claremont.

Claremont, California

Friday, February 26, 2021

In an unusual public intoxication arrest, a 26-year-old unhoused man was arrested after providing an unlikely false name and birth date, and a somewhat bizarre explanation as to why he was lounging on the roof of a house in the 400 block of Springfield Dr. Neighbors called police at 5:30 p.m. to report the man on the roof. Arriving officers say they saw him attempt to hide by lying down. After letting him know they could see him, he was asked what he was doing, and the man allegedly responded that he was "doing surveillance for the C.I.A." Cops say the man then rolled off the roof and started running. He got about a block away before apparently giving up and lying down in the street in the 200 block of Annapolis Drive. The man then told police he was 38 and provided a false name.

They eventually determined his true identity and that he was in fact more than a decade younger than he had claimed. They also discovered the man was under the influence of alcohol, and arrested him for evading a police officer and public intoxication, both misdemeanors.

Lebanon, Pennsylvania

October 23, 2017

A Lebanon man is facing charges for operating a boat while under the influence of alcohol at Lions Lake Park, according to North Lebanon police.

██████████, 34, of 822 S. Sixth St., Lebanon, was charged Monday with operating water craft under the influence of alcohol, reckless and negligent operation of watercraft, endangering the welfare of children, reckless endangerment, littering and disorderly conduct.

Police were initially dispatched to the park after receiving a report about someone in a boat yelling.



Hi there, why are you here?

Can't remember. Was I a C.I.A. agent? Driving 95? Did I pour blue liquid out before backing into a police car? Lying on a roof? Was I boat bellowing?



STEP THREE

When God solves our problems, we've faith in His abilities. When God doesn't solve our problems, He has faith in our abilities.

"Faith is to believe what we do not see; and the reward of this faith is to see what we believe."

"Once we believe in ourselves, we can risk curiosity, wonder, spontaneous delight, or any experience that reveals the human spirit."

Augustine (Aurelius Augustinus) lived from 13 November 354 - 28 August 430 AD.

"Being convinced, we were at Step Three, which is that we decided to turn our will and our life over to God as we understood Him. Just what do we mean by that?

"The first requirement is that we be convinced that any life run on self-will can hardly be a success. On that basis we are almost always in collision with something or somebody, even if our motives are good." ¹¹

"We hope you are convinced now that God can remove whatever self-will has blocked you off from Him. If you have already made a decision, and an inventory of your grosser handicaps, you have made a good beginning. That being so you have swallowed and digested some big chunks of truth about yourself." ¹²

The 3rd Step says we turn our will and life over to the care of God. First it says we *made a decision*. The word decision defined; "making up one's own mind." If my car breaks down, a decision may be made to fix it. The decision doesn't fix it. Action gets it fixed.

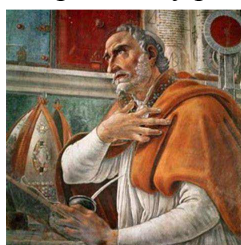
For any decision to have meaning, it always requires further action.

"To one who has faith, no explanation is necessary. To one without faith, no explanation is possible." Thomas Aquinas lived from January 28, 1225 - March 07, 1274 AD . ~ Editor

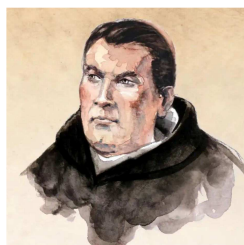
¹¹ Alcoholics Anonymous, HOW IT WORKS, page 60.

¹² Alcoholics Anonymous, HOW IT WORKS, page 71.

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Aurelius Augustinus



Thomas Aquinas

TRADITION THREE

"The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking." ¹³

A.A. is a program of no 'musts' it is said, A.A. has only suggestions for you. However true that may be, there are several 'musts' if you decide to become a member and learn a sober lifestyle from others of the 12 Step program of recovery. It must, otherwise, if nothing changes, nothing changes. This Tradition Three is only one of those 'musts'. It starts with a "requirement", which by definition is "a thing that is compulsory; a necessary condition." Then there's the definition for "must", "to be obliged or required."

Therefore the suggestion of a requirement has the condition, "for A.A. membership." This then has placed a suggestion of condition, defined as, "one that is indispensable to the appearance or occurrence of another; a prerequisite:"

If it were a suggestion only, then there would be no difference between a CLOSED or an OPEN A.A. meeting, which are defined by A.A. itself as,

"What are A.A. meetings?"

"Alcoholics Anonymous is established in approximately 180 countries. The people in each group get together, usually once or twice a week, to hold A.A. meetings, of two main types:

(1) At "open meetings," speakers tell how they drank, how they discovered A.A., and how its program has helped them. Members may bring relatives or friends, and usually anyone interested in A.A. is also welcome to attend "open meetings" as an observer.

(2) "Closed meetings" are for alcoholics only. These are group discussions, and any members who want to may speak up, to ask questions and to share their thoughts with fellow members. At "closed meetings," A.A.s can get help with personal problems in staying sober and in everyday living. Some other A.A.s can explain how they have already handled the same problems — often by using one or more of the Twelve Steps." ¹⁴

This means the desire to stop drinking makes one qualified to attend a CLOSED meeting with other alcoholics and gains membership into the program of recovery Fellowship with all its life changing suggestions. ~ Editor

¹³ Alcoholics Anonymous, APPENDIX I, THE TWELVE TRADITIONS, page 562.

¹⁴ From the A.A. Conference approved pamphlet, P-42, A BRIEF GUIDE TO AA, pages 7-8.

Step Three: “Made a decision ...

Learning from ‘Woman’s Way through the 12 Steps’

“...to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood Him.”

(Note: The book “A Woman’s Way Through the 12-Steps” gave me the clarity and insight I needed to understand the Twelve Steps with a perspective that allowed me to see myself for the true being that I am, what my being would become and the process I followed for a transformation that continues in my recovery today.

The author is Stephanie S. Covington, Ph.D. I came upon this book while embarking on my third attempt at sobriety in the program.

I did something different this time and I wanted to share my strength and hope from this amazing experience. I followed a set of footprints from a group of recovering alcoholics that led me to this book and a sober life of almost seven years ... and hopefully still counting. I was ready for this book and the book was ready for me. The following are some chosen excerpts. ~ Tim H.)

When we admit our powerlessness over our addiction, we learn an important truth: there are some things in our lives we simply cannot control. We weren’t always in control of what we did to satisfy our cravings or how we behaved on a binge. It can be a humbling and scary experience to see how little control we have over some of our behaviors.

Besides our addiction, there are many more things we can’t control. Although we may try to get things to go our way, other people continue to do what they want and situations don’t always go in our favor. This can leave us feeling frustrated, angry and resentful. because we’re frightened and anxious.

We may be trying to avoid feeling completely powerless. It’s depressing to feel that we always have to submit to someone else’s demands or that life is leading us in directions we don’t want to go. The problem is that we get caught up in the struggle of trying to control things that can’t.

When we are caught in this struggle, it’s like trying to carry a burden that’s too heavy. All our available energy goes into balancing the weight to keep ourselves from falling over. We stagger under the weight and we can’t do anything else until we set it down and let it go. When we let go, something or someone else can take over. Now we can be free

to live with new, creative energy.

Step Three tells us we can let go of our burden. Most of us don’t welcome the idea of letting go because it’s frightening. Who or what will take charge of our lives if we don’t. We may mistakenly believe that we can prevent more pain if we just keep holding on. It’s easy to think this way as long as we believe that we’re responsible for everything. But are we? The fact is, we can only be responsible for ourselves - our own actions and attitudes.

Everything else is beyond our control. In AA we hear the Serenity Prayer:

*God grant me the serenity
to accept the things I cannot change,
courage to change the things I can
and wisdom to know the difference.*

I can’t count the number of times I’ve said the Serenity Prayer in my recovery. I say it often to help me step back from my situation and see the bigger picture. True to its name, it calms me and then helps me remember that the universe isn’t always going to cooperate with my wishes and plans. The Serenity Prayer can remind us to look for guidance from the spiritual power that we have discovered for our-selves in Step Two. The in Step Three we decide to give this spirit or power guide life, rather than trying to control life ourselves. We simply make a decision to connect with our Higher Power. Women frequently say they fear everything will fall apart if they stop trying to control. But consider this instead: it may be that things are supposed to fall apart and we’ll only exhaust ourselves trying to prevent that from happening.

When we put ourselves in the position of holding everything together, it’s like trying to stop a boulder that’s rolling downhill.

Women are encouraged to worry about things. We’re expected to take care of all the details so those around us are free

to live their lives to the fullest. Our culture gives us permission to be worriers; to worry about the kids coming home on time, to worry about interpersonal relationships, to fret about staying in touch with family members, remembering birthdays, and running a household. (continued on page 10)



(continued from page 9)

But, what if we trusted a Higher Power to support others as we are learning it can support us? We used to organize our lives. We could probably worry less about these things and take better care of ourselves. When we let go, we can focus our energy on the areas where we do have influence and true responsibility, including our own health and well-being.

This Step may appear to imply submission. But, there's a difference between submission and surrender. When we submit, we give ourselves to a force that's trying to control us. When we surrender, we let go of our need to control.

Step Three asks us to surrender, not submit! Surrendering is like learning to balance. For a while we may tip back and forth between submission and control. Surrender is the balance point, the sanity and serenity we experience when we are secure in our Higher Power.

There can be a danger, especially for women, in thinking that we'll receive good things from our Higher Power if we are well-behaved, childlike, and passive. Instead of being submissive, we can envision an interactive relationship in which we nurture our Higher Power as much as it nurtures us.

Willingness is saying yes to life. The difference between willfulness and willingness is this: willfulness is gaining power over people and situations; willingness is being receptive to new possibilities.

Willingness helps you grow in your recovery. You'll find that the Twelve Steps repeatedly ask you to be willing – to try something new, to be open to change to let go of the past. When you turn your will over this way, you become willing. It's an act of faith and trust: you are willing to see what happens if you stop trying to control outcomes and let life unfold.

The subtle secret of Step Three is that it's about deciding to let go. The Third Step says "we made a decision" to turn our will and our lives over to God. We decide that we'll do things differently, try a different outlook. We decide to become willing, or even willing to become willing!

The Steps offer guidance for learning about and becoming responsible for ourselves and for connecting that newfound sense of self to a guiding spirit. At our meetings we learn from other women how they have discovered a sense of balance between self and others in their recovery. And in relationship with others in recovery, we have the opportunity to test and grow confident with our

ability to make empowering decisions that support both us and others.

There are many decisions we'll make in Step Three. We can make a decision about how our Higher Power around our substance of choice. Now we can decide to place spirituality in the center of our lives.

We can use the energy we spent on drinking, eating or gambling to cooperate with the ebb and flow of life. We can decide to become willing to go with the tide rather than struggling against it – choosing to participate in our recovery rather than fighting it or waiting for it to happen.

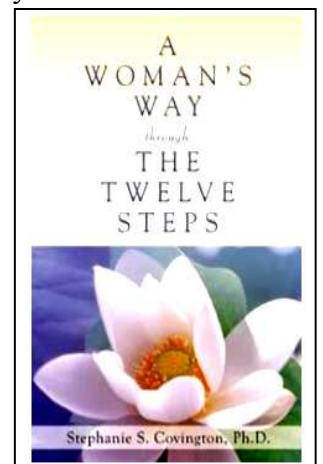
Because we're accustomed to an immediate payoff, we may feel uncomfortable if we don't experience instant relief. In times like this we call on our faith in our Higher Power to remind us that we don't have to know all the answers just yet. We simply trust that we will be supported and remember that life may unfold differently than we planned.

When we claim our true power, leaving behind willfulness and entering into willingness, we commit ourselves to spiritual growth. Now we seek the inner wisdom to know the difference between what we can control and what we cannot.

THIS IS NOT AN ENDORSEMENT, but it is keeping in tune with the Big Book, INTO ACTION, page 87, where it says, "There are many helpful books also." Reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission. **A Woman's Way through The Twelve Steps Book** [Covington, S. (1994 English, 2010 Spanish). Center City, MN: Hazelden Publishing]

"This compilation of a diverse group of real women's voices and wisdom illuminates how women understand the Twelve Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous and offers inspiring stories of how they have traveled through the Steps and discovered what works for them. The book can be used alone or as a companion to The Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous.

"By drawing attention to how recovery raises special issues for women – from questions about sexuality and relationships to essential topics such as powerlessness, spirituality, and trauma – A Woman's Way empowers women to take ownership of their recovery and to grow and flourish in sobriety."



WARRANTY THREE of Alcoholics Anonymous

“None of the Conference members should ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others.”¹⁵

“We have learned that this principle is of incalculable value to the harmonious conduct of our Conference affairs. Its application in our structure has already been extensively discussed under the Concept entitled ‘Right of Participation’, which emphasizes that our world servants, both as individuals and groups, shall be entitled to voting rights in reasonable proportion to their several responsibilities.”¹⁶

Okay, there you have it, straight from the horse’s mouth, so to speak. The Third Warranty as written by Bill W. with his explanation as to how it applies to the World Service.

However, A.A. is very much more than being concerned with “world servants. “As Bill states, individuals and groups are the world servants. Yes, they have the right to vote, but we are all servants. That means we don’t sit on our hands and go with the elevator crowd. We should be more involved than just going to meetings and taking care of ourselves. Let us go back down memory lane, to an article in the first F.A.U.C. Newsletter published in October 2015.

“Servant, Service, and Savant”

“A servant serves others. Service is the act of serving others. A savant is a person of learning.

“Take a Farmer for instance; he is outstanding in his field. By producing grains his service helps others. By standing out in his field, he is learning what care he could next provide for the crops that will be for the good of others.

“A.A. is like that. First we become Servants. We adjust to a new way of life and become involved in the Service of A.A., carrying the message to alcoholics that they too may take part in a spiritual reprieve in their lives.

“Then we learn to become better at listening, and as we learn, we may be better able to serve others more completely, and learning more now, we continue to be a better person, a savant servant in service.”



by Doug G.

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.”¹⁷

So it is that A.A. World Services, Inc. currently has nine Directors; four of them are Trustees - out of a total of seven Trustees. Those four Trustees are not members of Alcoholics Anonymous and shall always constitute a majority of the Board of Trustees.

How the Right of Participation works is this:

“Such a typical corporate business management easily permits a proper degree of voting ‘participation.’ Every skilled element to do the allotted job is present. No class is set in authority over another. This is the corporate or ‘participating’ method of doing business, as distinguished from structures so common to many institutional, military and government agencies wherein high-level people or classes of people often are set in absolute authority, one over the other.”¹⁸

So by having no absolute authority present, A.A. enjoins, encourages, and ensures that voting is the way of decision, that “Right of Participation” is extended to all voters.

“We can do this when we are sure we belong, when the fact of our ‘participation’ assures us that we are truly the ‘trusted servants’ described in A.A.’s Tradition Two.”¹⁹ (“...Our leaders are but trusted servants...they do not govern.”)²⁰

¹⁵ THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL combined with TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE 2021- 2023 by Bill W., page C52.

¹⁶ THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL combined with TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE 2021- 2023 by Bill W., page C53.

¹⁷ THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL combined with TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE 2021- 2023 by Bill W., page C12.

¹⁸ THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL combined with TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE 2021- 2023 by Bill W., page C12.

¹⁹ THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL combined with TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE 2021- 2023 by Bill W., page C15.

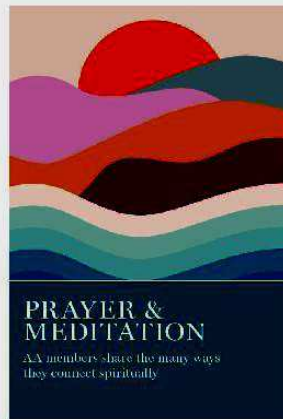
²⁰ Alcoholics Anonymous, APPENDIX I, THE TWELVE TRADITIONS, page 562.

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SOLD-OUT BOOK IS BACK IN STOCK!

HOME // SOLD-OUT BOOK IS BACK IN STOCK!

Prayer & Meditation



Prayer & Meditation features powerful stories by members of Alcoholics Anonymous about the many ways they pray and meditate in their daily lives. The stories in this book show how members begin to pray and meditate and then branch out to develop very personal, and often creative, ways to practice.

International Journal of AA. Great for people in recovery or those who want to explore prayer and meditation.

Price: \$11.50 each/5 or more copies \$10.50 each.

Call the F.A.U.C. Literature Chair – James P. – 313-613-3703 for your copy today.

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Heard it *'Round the Rooms!*



“Before I get to what I heard tonight and share it with you, I wanted to share some of the things I’ve heard members of A.A. say about this slogan:

“I think ‘think think think’ means to think before you speak or think before you drink, but I could be wrong. Good point though in your post! I remember thinking way too much the first time around when I was in AA, now I keep it simple and go to meetings and not drink.

“Think Think Think (Upside). It is usually on display in most AA meetings— written upside down to remind us that we have to turn our constant over thinking on its head, if we are to recover. -At the end of the prayer, the group may say, ‘Keep coming back.’

“Clarence S. (no doubt many here will know he was a prominent force in getting AA off the ground in Cleveland) said in one of his talks of how ‘we alcoholics are a sensitive, emotional people’ in what for me was a particularly interesting part of his message. He mentions that he sometimes has a desire to flip over the ‘Think’ sign when he walks into a meeting. His point was that our feelings tend to override our thoughts process and we must work the steps to change the way we feel about things.’ ‘I was told normal people typically only need to ‘think’ once where we alcoholics are prone to needing our thinking checked even after think, think, thinking. Hence, it was suggested I give some serious thought to letting someone else do my thinking for me for a while.’

“At any rate, tonight in a ‘meeting after the meeting’ it came up in conversation. One of the women in that meeting shared that she was taught that in the last paragraph of the Preface in the Big Book it says, ‘If you have a drinking problem, we hope that you may pause in reading one of the forty-two personal stories and think: ‘Yes, that happened to me’; or, more important, ‘Yes, I’ve felt like that’; or, most important, ‘Yes, I believe this program can work for me too.’

“She went onto use those sentences in application to the phrase, ‘Think Think Think’ and shared with us the following:

“If you have a drinking problem, we hope that you may pause in reading one of the forty-two personal stories and THINK: ‘Yes, that happened to me’; or, more important, THINK ‘Yes, I’ve felt like that’; or, most important, THINK ‘Yes, I believe this program can work for me too.’

“BAM!!!!!!! That was the first time I’ve ever heard an explanation of that slogan in a way that truly resonated with me. While there may not be a definitive answer to what it really means, and we may never learn where it really came from – I’m going to hold onto this definition (for now!) I just love A.A. and its members! Thanks C!”

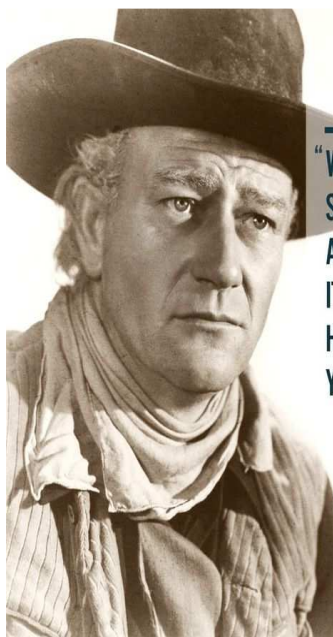
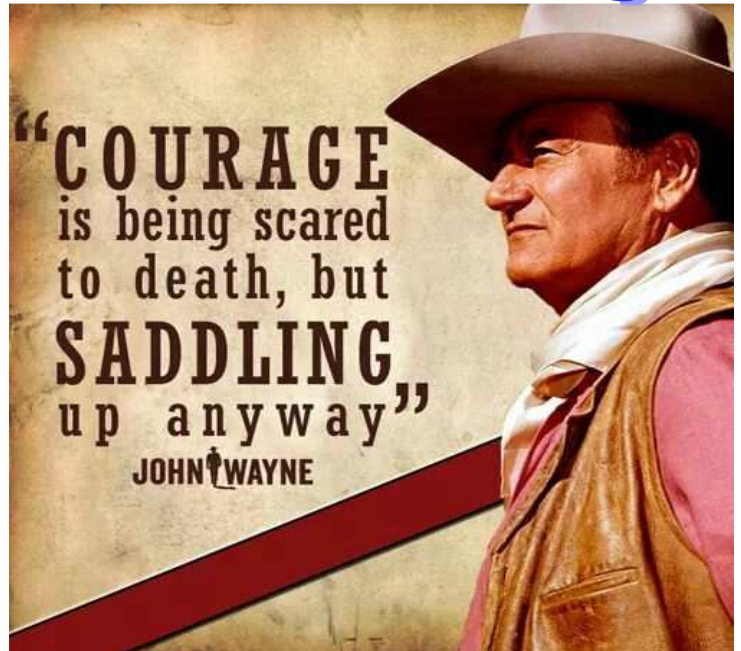
<https://www.takethe12.org/think-think-think/>



Got your WAYNEISM today?

WHEN THE ROAD
LOOKS ROUGH
AHEAD, REMEMBER
THE MAN UPSTAIRS
AND THE WORD
HOPE.
HANG ON TO BOTH
AND TOUGH IT OUT.
John Wayne

“COURAGE
is being scared
to death, but
SADDLING,
up anyway”
JOHN WAYNE



“WHEN YOU COME
SLAM BANG UP
AGAINST TROUBLE,
IT NEVER LOOKS
HALF AS BAD IF
YOU FACE UP TO IT”

“A man
ought to do
what he
thinks is
right.” J.W.

“IT LOOKS LIKE
IT'S GOING TO BE
ANOTHER FINE DAY.”
JOHN WAYNE

Slap some bacon on a biscuit and let's go!
We're burning
daylight! J.W.

TOMORROW
hopes we have
LEARNED
something from
YESTERDAY



John Wayne

THE FULL QUOTE



“TOMORROW IS THE
MOST IMPORTANT
THING IN LIFE.
COMES INTO US AT
MIDNIGHT VERY
CLEAN. IT'S PERFECT
WHEN IT ARRIVES
AND IT PUTS ITSELF
IN OUR HANDS. IT
HOPES WE'VE LEARNT
SOMETHING FROM
YESTERDAY.”

-INSCRIPTION ON JOHN WAYNE'S TOMBSTONE



“LIFE IS GETTING UP
ONE MORE TIME
THAN YOU'VE BEEN
KNOCKED DOWN.”

— JOHN WAYNE

THE PRIMARY PURPOSE GROUP BIG BOOK STUDY GUIDE

The Big Book Study Guide was developed by the Primary Purpose Group of Dallas -- the group that inspired OAPP. The purpose of the Study Guide is to enable the student to better understand the information the authors of the book, Alcoholics Anonymous, intended to impart to each of us based on their experience and knowledge of alcoholism and their Program of Recovery.

A Study of the Basic Text for Alcoholics Anonymous

HOW IT WORKS

(Page 64)

- 1-a. What was our Third Step decision?
- 1-b. What is necessary for the effect to be a lasting one?
- 1-c. When should we do Step Four?

4. Was alcohol our problem?

5. What did we have to determine?

(P) 6. What did we start? (2 sentences)

Comment: The word "moral" in Step Four means truthful and honest.

7. What happens to a business that takes no inventory?

8. What is a commercial inventory?

9. What is the purpose of an inventory?

10. What is the main object of an inventory?

11. If the owner is to be successful, what is it he must not do?

(P) 12. What do we do?

13. How do we take stock of ourselves?

14. What are we looking for?

15-a. What had defeated us?

15-b. What do we consider?

(P) 17 What is the first manifestation of our character defects we look at?

Question - What is a resentment?

Answer - Remembering a previous situation that made us angry and refeeling the anger that it produced.

18. What does it do to alcoholics?

Alcoholics Anonymous
THE FAMILY AFTERWARD,
Page 135.

Alcoholics Anonymous
THE FAMILY AFTERWARD,
Page 135.

Alcoholics Anonymous
THERE IS A SOLUTION,
Page 25.

No direct quote in Alcoholics Anonymous.
“Think” used 130 times. Page 135.

Alcoholics Anonymous
THE FAMILY AFTERWARD,
Page 135.

MS-04 5 Slogans \$4.75 Category: Other Media Available at <https://store.aagrapevine.org/> (800) 631-6025 customerservice@aagrapevine.org - Five familiar slogans, reproduced from the versions that first appeared in the Grapevine in late 1956 and early 1957. (One slogan on each 9" × 12" page.)

“Think, Think, Think’ Part 6 of 12 Step Slogans Mindy F. Feb. 15, 2017

“Think, think, think’ is usually found on the walls of 12 Step meeting rooms next to ‘Let Go Let God’, and ‘Easy Does It’, but what does it mean? The phrase ‘think, think, think’ isn’t talked about much, and there is some debate as to how it came about, but I feel it is still important to include in the list of common slogans.

“After some research I found a message board with ideas of what this phrase means, and where it came from. Apparently the phrase ‘think, think, think’ was an IBM marketing slogan back in the 50’s, and AA picked it up. I do not know the validity of that statement, but I do think it is true. Nowhere in the literature can you find a reference to this slogan, at least I’ve never run into it.

Which leaves us with the question, what does it mean?

“My ‘Best’ Thinking

“Some of you may have heard the saying ‘my best thinking got me here’, meaning that my ideas and thoughts are the reason I am a part of the Fellowship. With that idea in mind, ‘think, think, think’ may be a reminder to me to stop and think something through. Instead of going with the first thought that pops into my head, stop for a minute and think it through more.

“‘Think’ About Someone Else

“Another idea is that this phrase is a reminder to not think only of myself. I am a selfish, self-centered human sometimes. For most of my childhood I learned that if I wanted to be taken care of, I had to do it myself. But, that thinking led me down the path of thinking of myself always. How do I survive? How do I take care of me? Even when I was thinking of others, and how I could help them, I was still thinking about myself, and what I could get out of the situation. But, if I remember ‘think, think, think’, and put it to use I can Think — what would my Higher Power want me to do here; Think — What can I do for someone else; Think — What do I need?

“Used in this way, my first thought isn’t ‘what’s in it for me?’ My first thought is centered on asking my Higher Power for direction, second on helping someone else, and third on taking care of me.

“Past, Present, Future

“‘Think, Think, Think’ could also be a reminder to stay present in the moment. The first and last ‘think’ on the poster are small, which could represent the past and future. Look to the past for strength to get through today, and remember where you came from. Look to the future to gather hope for a better tomorrow, and as a way to continue growth. And, the big ‘think’ in the middle is for today. We must live in today because yesterday is gone, and tomorrow isn’t promised. All we have is today. It is important to remember our past, and look towards the future, but only if we don’t live there.

“Open For Interpretation

“The beauty of this slogan is, it is open for interpretation. Since it has no origin, you can make it into whatever you want. There is no set way to understand the phrase ‘think, think, think’. As always, you can take what you like, and leave the rest. The choice is yours.

“Ideas taken from soberrecovery.com message board.”

<https://medium.com/rising-from-the-ashes/think-think-think-ac79785ce523>

Modified Slightly

From the Preface, *“Alcoholics Anonymous”*...

“If you have a drinking problem, we hope that you may pause in reading one of the forty-two personal stories and ...

Think ♦♦♦♦

“Yes, that happened to me”; or,

Think

“Yes, I’ve felt like that”; or, most important,

♦♦♦♦ Think

“Yes, I believe this program can work for me too.”

PREFACE in the fourth edition of Alcoholics Anonymous, page xi, paragraph 3.

“... If you have a drinking problem, we hope that you may pause when reading one of the forty-two personal stories and think: ‘Yes, that happened to me’: or more important: ‘Yes, I’ve felt like that’: or, most important, ‘Yes, I believe this program can work for me too.’”

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THINK
BEFORE YOU SPEAK!

Is it **TRUE** ?

Is it **HELPFUL** ?

Is it **INSPIRING** ?

Is it **NECESSARY** ?

Is it **KIND** ?

Before you act, listen.
Before you react, think.
Before you spend, earn.
Before you criticize, wait.
Before you pray, forgive.
Before you quit, try.

Ernest Hemingway

"IT TAKES TWO YEARS
TO LEARN TO SPEAK
AND SIXTY TO LEARN
TO KEEP QUIET."
ERNEST HEMINGWAY

Uh oh. I'm sixty seven and have lots of work to do. ~ Editor

"Always do sober what you said
you'd do drunk..."

that will teach you to
keep your mouth shut."
- Ernest Hemingway



WE ARE ALL BROKEN,
THAT'S HOW THE LIGHT
GETS IN...

ERNEST HEMINGWAY

The Twelve Concepts for World Service

How Bill W. explained the spiritual principles that undergird A.A.'s structure and how the parts work together.

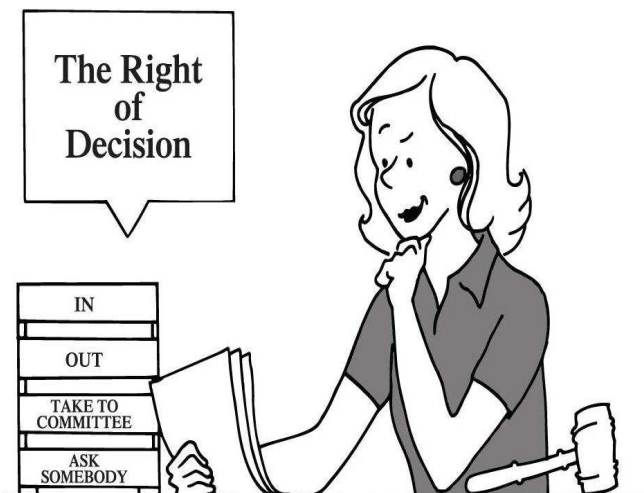
Title and CONCEPT III: From the pamphlet "P-8 Twelve Concepts for World Service illustrated", CONCEPT III is on pages 6 & 7. Reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

Concept III

As a traditional means of creating and maintaining a clearly defined working relation between the groups, the Conference, the A.A. General Service Board and its several service corporations, staffs, committees and executives, and of thus insuring their effective leadership, it is here suggested that we endow each of these elements of world service with a traditional "Right of Decision."

You should be familiar with the Conference Charter and the Bylaws of the General Service Board as background for this Concept, both of which are found in *The A.A. Service Manual*. For, except for the specific directions in these documents, every trusted servant and every A.A. entity — at all levels of service — has the right "to decide . . . how they will interpret and apply their own authority and responsibility to each particular problem or situation as it arises." That is, they can "decide which problems they will dispose of themselves and upon which matters they will report, consult, or ask specific directions." This is "the essence of "The Right of Decision."

But this right also means the Fellowship must have trust in its "trusted servants." If the groups *instruct* their G.S.R.s rather than giving them a "Right of Decision," then the area conference is hamstrung. If the G.S.R.s *instruct* the area delegates rather than giving them a "Right of Decision," then the General Service Conference is hamstrung. As Bill points out, "our Conference delegates are *primarily* the servants of A.A. as they should . . . cast their votes . . . according to the best dictates of their own judgment and conscience at that time."



AT ALL LEVELS OF SERVICE

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Similarly, if the General Service Board, acting through its subsidiary boards, "were to attempt to manage" the General Service Office and the AA Grapevine *in detail*, then . . . the staff members . . . would quickly become demoralized; they would be turned into buck-passers and rubber stamps; their choice would be to rebel and resign, or to submit and rot."

Bill warns against using "The Right of Decision" as an excuse for failure to make the proper reports actions taken; or for exceeding a clearly defined authority; or for failing to consult the proper people before making an important decision. But he concludes:

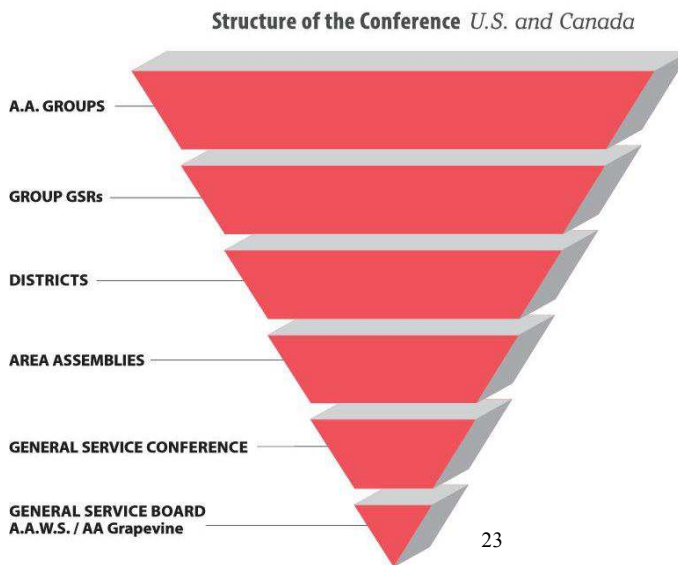
"Our entire A.A. program rests squarely upon the principle of mutual trust. We trust God, we trust A.A., and we trust each other."

WARRANTY III

Warranty Three: “None of the Conference members shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority over any of the others.”²¹

The Warranties provide the backbone of A.A.’s Conference, the voice and the conscience of the society in its world affairs. As stated “The Warranties also express spiritual principles which apply to all other A.A. entities as well.”²²

Warranty Three is fully supportive of A.A. through all its activities. One may think, “I’m not part of the Conference. I just go to a meeting at such and such a place, and I know so and so and help others as guided by my experience, strength and hope. I’m pretty low key and not involved in the Service Work of A.A.; I’m just a small part of the Fellowship.”



That may well be true in so far as that is what one may think. But just by being in the Fellowship, one is an active part of the body for the Conference Structure of A.A. It may be you whose voice needs to be heard of your experience, strength and hope.

²¹ THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL combined with TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE, 2021-2023 Edition, page C52.

²² Pamphlet P-8, The Twelve Concepts For World Service illustrated, CONCEPT XII, page 24.

²³ THE A.A. SERVICE MANUAL combined with TWELVE CONCEPTS FOR WORLD SERVICE, 2021-2023 Edition, page 3.

“We...have recovered from a seemingly hopeless state of mind and body.”²⁴

“It meant I would have to throw several lifelong conceptions out of the window.”²⁵

“Each member becomes an active guardian of our Fellowship.”²⁶

“Realization dawns that he is but a small part of a great whole; that no personal sacrifice is too great for preservation of the Fellowship.”²⁷

“A.A.'s Twelve Traditions apply to the life of the Fellowship itself.”²⁸

“While our literature has preserved the integrity of the A.A. message, sweeping changes in society as a whole are reflected in new customs and practices within the Fellowship.”²⁹

We have witnessed in time the fledgeling society become mainstream in its thoughts, actions, and deeds - maintaining anonymity all the while. The Fellowship has become the active voice, the Conference the vehicle of that voice’s conscience. Without the support, input and work of the Fellowship, the Conference would be rudderless. The last quote above shows how important the voice and conscience are in that they allow A.A. to change in step with the Fellowship.

The first 164 pages of the text *Alcoholic Anonymous* will not change. “However, because the book has helped so many alcoholics find recovery, there exists strong sentiment within the Fellowship against any change to it.”³⁰ A recent change is the Preamble, from stating “a fellowship of men and women” to “a fellowship of people” (Copyright Grapevine). This shows that even back in 2001 when the Foreword to the Fourth Edition was written, change was recognized, inherent, and happening. And it takes your voice and conscience to continue.

²⁴ *Alcoholics Anonymous, FOREWORD TO THE FIRST EDITION*, page xiii.

²⁵ *Alcoholics Anonymous, MORE ABOUT ALCOHOLISM*, page 42.

²⁶ *TWELVE STEPS and TWELVE TRADITIONS, CONTENTS*, (Tradition Eleven), page 12.

²⁷ *TWELVE STEPS and TWELVE TRADITIONS, CONTENTS, TRADITION ONE*, page 130.

²⁸ *TWELVE STEPS and TWELVE TRADITIONS, FOREWORD*, page 15.

²⁹ *Alcoholics Anonymous, FOREWORD TO THE FOURTH EDITION*, page xxiv.

³⁰ *TWELVE STEPS and TWELVE TRADITIONS, INTRODUCTION*, page 14.

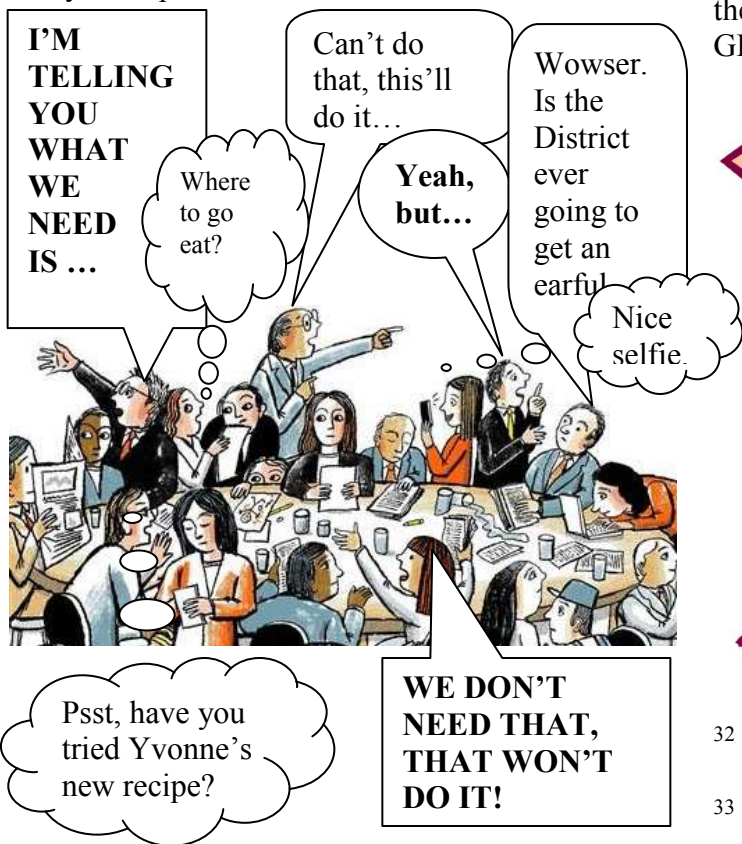
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The preceding page on Warranty Three describes what it is and why; what it doesn't tell is how it works.

Obviously not the entire Fellowship attends Conferences. But you, the voice of A.A., have the conscience, which is described in Tradition Two as "For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority...a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience..."³¹

No, no, and **NO**. It is not being insinuated that you are God. But it is being stated that without your voice, there is no group conscience, hence no need for an ultimate authority.

In the group conscience, issues discussed, solved, tabled, etc. are the direct result of the Fellowship having their say. Those concerns about A.A. that reach beyond the group itself are then forwarded by the GSR to the District. (In our case, District 12). If it can not be resolved, or made an actionable item there, then the DCM of the District takes it to the Area Assembly. If it can not be resolved, or made an actionable item there, then the Delegate moves it on to Statewide and it may end up at the General Service Conference.



³¹ Alcoholics Anonymous, APPENDIX I, THE TWELVE TRADITIONS, page 562.

Granted there are a lot of voices out there. And so much more experience, strength and hope. To guide the Fellowship through the pitfall of trying to reinvent the wheel to satisfy our own curiosities, there are suggestions, guidelines, and Conference actions to refer to, or not. As it says in Tradition Five, "Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole."³²

So again, what does that mean in regards to Warranty Three? It falls in line with the "Right of Decision" and in that none of the members are placed in unqualified authority when the process of the group conscience is used as in Tradition Two.

It has been said many, many times; every group has the right to be wrong. But who is deciding the right and wrong of it if it is a group conscience decision and does not affect A.A. as a whole or even any other group? Comes down to hearsay and opinion of others, maybe even the bleeding deacon ("The bleeding deacon is one that is just as surely convinced the group can not get along without him..."),³³ that didn't get his way.

Warranty Three upholds many traditions and practices of A.A. from the individual member up to the General Service Board, A.A.W.S. and GRAPEVINE.



³² Alcoholics Anonymous, APPENDIX I, THE TWELVE TRADITIONS, page 562.

³³ TWELVE STEPS and TWELVE TRADITIONS, TRADITION TWO, page 135.

³⁴ Alcoholics Anonymous, APPENDIX I, THE TWELVE TRADITIONS, page 562. Reprinted with A.A.W.S. permission.

MARCH ROUNDUP 2022

March 4th - 6th

Motor City Casino
2901 Grand River Ave.
Detroit, MI 48201

Weekend Activities

Panel Discussions • Guest Speakers • 701 • Archives Display
Traditions Skit • Committee Display Tables • Dancing
Sobriety Countdown • Alkathon • More!

Keynote Speakers & Workshops:

AA Speakers

Friday 8:00pm - Marilyn S. / Los Angeles CA
Saturday 8:00pm - Bob D. / Las Vegas NV
Sunday 12:00pm - Mike S. / Riverside CA

AL-ANON Speaker

Saturday 2:30pm - Aaron J. / Charlotte, NC

ALATEEN Speaker

Saturday 4:00pm

- Sign Language Interpreters for all main speakers
- Spanish speaking programs available
- Seating section available for those with special needs

Door Open at 3pm Friday, March 4th

- Program will be available 10 days prior to convention online at www.aa-semi.org
- Late night entertainment (TBD) - Friday Night
- Saturday Evening Banquet
- Dance Party with DJ - Saturday Night

Coffee & General Purpose Donations

Coffee is a significant expense at the MRU as well as other costs that are funded solely by contributions from our members like you. Even if you can't attend, a small donation may help someone get sober! We need help from groups and individual members to defray these costs. Please help out if you can so that others can enjoy coffee or the gift of sobriety. Go to www.aa-semi.org, click on the link for MRU to donate.

Thank you in advance for your generosity & kindness!

For additional information please contact:

Convention Chairperson - Brandy B. 248.219.7386 or area33mruchair@aa-semi.org
Registration Chairperson- Frank K. or area33mruregistrationchair@aa-semi.org

MARCH ROUNDUP 2022



Hotel Reservations Information

Cost of Rooms per night: \$149

How to book room:

Here is the reservation information:

Call our hotel directly at (313) 237-7711
and reference the March Round Up group.

Go to our website, www.motorcitycasino.com,
click on book a room and use the
group code 030422MAR

Follow this link:

<https://booking.motorcitycasino.com?package=030422MARC>

Discounted room rate expires February 15th, book early!

Michigan Mock Conference

Saturday, March 26, 2022

9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

First United Methodist Church
400 South Main Street
Mount Pleasant, Michigan 48858

What is a Mock Conference? “Mock” means a practice or rehearsal for a later event. The Michigan Mock Conference simulates the General Service Conference held annually in New York. Attendees serve just like Delegates.

Upon registration, you will be assigned to one of nine Conference Committees and provided with three agenda items for your assigned committee to consider, along with the relevant background material.

Come, listen, and learn. Give your input to your Delegates.

Pre-register via MichiganMockConference.com

Attendance is FREE, however seats are limited. After you register, you will receive the Conference background material via EMAIL so that you will be informed and ready to do your part. Pre-registration ends Wednesday, March 23.

You can still attend and register on site, but you will not have the background material in advance.

Questions? Email: inettamusic@gmail.com or call 810-407-1687.

Spread the word! Share this post!

Please note this important information: At the present time, the Mock Conference is being held in-person. The conference will change to a virtual meeting only if circumstances in Michigan warrant this change. Please check the www.aamichiganstatewide.com.

*If you are registered, we will notify you by your email with the link to a Zoom meeting.

If you are planning to come on Friday:
Friday night at 8 p.m., join us for an AA meeting at the Mt. Pleasant Alano Club, 1201 N. Fancher St, Mt Pleasant, MI 48858.
If you are staying overnight on Friday night, one option is Comfort Inn & Suites, 2424 S. Mission St., Mt. Pleasant. Call 989-772-4000 and use the code "Mock Conference."
\$105 per night, with cutoff date of February 26, 2022.

When the work begins on Saturday,
what happens?

Tentative Program for the 2022 Michigan Mock Conference

8:00 - 9:00 Meet and greet with attendees for coffee, donuts, etc.

9:00 – 9:15 **Opening Session**

9:15 – 9:40 Your day at the Mock Conference

9:40 – 9:42 **Area Service Highlights** (2 minutes)

9:40 – 11:45 **Conference Committee Meetings**

You will meet with your assigned Conference Committee. A chairperson will moderate your committee's discussions of the agenda items.

If your committee work is unfinished at 11:45, you will continue working through lunch.

12:30 **Break for lunch**

12:35 – 4:30 **Afternoon Session**

12:35 – 2:30 **Committee Reports and Discussion.**

The committee chairpersons present the collective voice of their committee's recommendations to the whole conference. The Michigan Delegates will take your recommendations to the General Service Conference in New York.

2:20 – 2:35 **Break**

2:45 – 4:30 **Committee Reports and Discussion** (continued)

A new development on the F.A.U.C. Website has been achieved by the new Website Chair Nick E. Along with making the Newsletter a pdf file on the website; he has included a toolbar on the top and a download button at the bottom for users. THANK YOU NICK, GREAT JOB!!!

https://geneseecountyaa.org/f-a-u-c-newsletter/

Contact Us Flint Area Unity Council 2022 Meeting Schedule Forms Flint AI-Anon Meetings and ZOOM Meetings Links Twelve Steps

Twelve Traditions F.A.U.C. Newsletter SOBRIETY COUNTERS A.A. Answering Service (Helpline) Accessibilities For All Alcoholics

Corrections Facilities Cooperation With the Professional Community A.A. Literature Public Information Grapevine

Treatment Facilities Young People Website


F.A.U.C. Newsletter

1 of 23

February 2022; No. 77
Vol. 7; Issue 5
A.A. Help Line
(810) 234-0815
Meetings Opened and
Zoom Meetings on Website

The F.A.U.C. Website is www.geneseecountyaa.org
Newsletter at <https://geneseecountyaa.org/f-a-u-c-newsletter>

The A.A.W.S. licensed Smart Phone Meeting Guide app
has Flint Area A.A. Meetings and is free at the app store.



Step Two: "Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity." ¹ Pgs 1, 3, 5, 12, 13, 14.

Tradition Two: "For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority...a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants...they do not govern." ² Pgs 1, 15, 16, 17.

Concept Two: "The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the effective conscience of our whole Society in world affairs." ³ Pg 1, 18.

Warranty Two: "Sufficient operating funds, plus an ample Reserve, should be its prudent financial principle." ⁴ Pgs 1, 3.

It is not whichever way the wind blows. It is a well thought out conceived manner of living along with taking care of ourselves and others through adherence to safe operating, continuing principles. Paraphrasing the four suggestions above it can be

The second Warranty is a guarantee of operational effectiveness the Society uses. The humble fact that A.A. is self supporting highlights how effective the prudent financial principles must be that it practices. Take a look at your home group – what does it

2_Feb_2022 [Download](#)

G.S.R. Work Shop

Sponsored by

F.A.U.C.

GENERAL SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE ?
GROUP SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE

flint area unity council

Presentation given by Area 32 Alt Delegate MARK M.

Followed by

THE TRADITIONS SKIT



April 16, 2022 from 2:30 till 4:30ish

Thetford - at the Senior Center off M57
G-11495 N. Center rd. Clio, 48420

Dinner to Follow