



From the Editor

The Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous have given my relationships new life. It's as simple as that.

The first time I realized that there was definitely something important located within the Traditions besides the fear of 'getting into the politics of A.A.', there was immense relief to be found in the simple ideas located within.

Before anything else really sunk in, it became clear in my exposure to some business meetings and Group Conscience/Steering Committee meetings that it truly is the greater good of the group over time that matters.

Along with that idea is the simple proof that so far in my journey in sobriety there is a balance to be found. For me it is not balance everyday though, it is the balance of all things over time.

This is something I learned and continue to learn through the Traditions.

My hope is that everyone will, at some point in their recovery, be taught the importance of the Traditions to the survival of Alcoholics Anonymous – which is the only reason that this amazing way of life was still around for my arrival over 50 years after it was founded.

-Alison G.

Twelve Suggested Points of AA Tradition

by Bill W. (Excerpts from Bill W's first General Presentation of Traditions to the Groups – AA Grapevine April 1946)

'Nobody invented Alcoholics Anonymous. It grew. Trial and error has produced a rich experience. Little by little we have been adopting the lessons of that experience, first as policy and then as Tradition. That process still goes on and we hope it never stops. Should we ever harden too much, the letter might crush the spirit. We could victimize ourselves by petty rules and prohibitions; we could imagine that we had said the last word. We might even be asking alcoholics to accept our rigid ideas or stay away. We never stifle progress like that!'

'Almost any AA can tell you what our group problems are. Fundamentally they have to do with our relations, one with the other, and with the world outside. They involve relations of the AA to the group, the relation of the group to Alcoholics Anonymous as a whole, and the place of Alcoholics Anonymous in that troubled sea called modern society, where all of humankind must presently shipwreck or find haven. Terribly relevant is the problem of our basic structure and our attitude toward those ever pressing questions of leadership, money, and authority. The future way well depend on how we feel and act about things that are controversial and how we regard our public relations. Our final destiny will surely hang upon what we presently decide to do with these danger-fraught issues!'

'Now comes the crux of our discussion. It is this: Have we yet acquired sufficient experience to state clear-cut policies on these, our chief concerns? Can we now declare general principles which could grow into vital Traditions -- Traditions sustained in the heart of each AA by his own deep conviction and by the common consent of his fellows? That is the question. Though full answers to all our perplexities may never be found, I'm sure we have come at least to a vantage point whence we can discern the main outlines of a body of Tradition; which, God willing, can stand as an effective guard against all the ravages of time and circumstance.'

'Acting upon the persistent urge of old AA friends, (Ed. Note - Particularly Earl T. from Chicago) and upon the conviction that general agreement and consent between our members is now possible, I shall venture to place in words these suggestions for an Alcoholics Anonymous Tradition of Relations -- Twelve Points to Assure Our Future.'



67th Southeastern Regional Conference & North Carolina State Convention

“Language of the Heart”

August 11-14th, 2011

Hilton North Raleigh
3415 Wake Forest Road
(Exit 10 off I-440 Beltline) Raleigh, NC
27609-7316

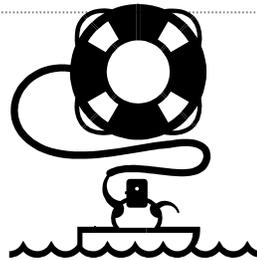
Guest Speakers:

- Polly P, Jacksonville FL
- Danny B, Houston TX
- Rachel M, Spencer NC
- Larcene G, Hawthorne CA*
- Scott D, Utica MI
- Stu B, Severna Park MD

T.C.I.O. meetings are held every 3rd Sunday at 4:00pm, at 4800 Park Circle Drive, North Charleston. All are welcome to attend!



Treatment Center Schedules



PLACE	TIME	July 2011	August 2011
Dorchester IOP	Alt. Mon 7:00 PM	Crowfield	Crowfield
Vet Villa	Sunday 7:30 PM	Survivors	St. Pauls
Charleston Vet.	Monday 8:00 PM	Heritage	3 Legacies
Charleston Center	Saturday Speaker 7:00 PM	Seabreeze	Folly Beach
Charleston Center	Tuesday 7:00 PM	Eustabaffl us	SOS
Charleston Center	Friday 7:00 PM	Daily Reprieve	Old Village
MUSC	Thursday 7:30 PM	West Ashley	Daily Reprieve
MUSC	Friday 7:30 PM	?	West Ashley
MUSC	Saturday 7:30 PM	Trident	Seabreez e
MUSC	Sunday 7:30 PM	Folly Beach	Survivors
Palmetto Center	Sunday 8:00 PM	Big Book Thumpers	Pre-nooners
Palmetto Center	Monday 8:00 PM	3 Legacies	Heritage
Palmetto Center	Tuesday 8:00 PM	North Area	Oakbrook
Palmetto Center	Friday 8:00 PM	SOS	SOS

Heard it in ‘the Rooms’:

“Isolation is the darkroom where I go to develop my negatives”

Tri- County Intergroup (TCIO) Activities

Committee is looking for help from you to plan parties!

Please come and join the fun Every 3rd Sunday @ park circle @ 3:30pm we meet to plan the next event!

UPCOMING EVENTS INCLUDE:
FOUNDERS DAY JUNE 2011

GRATITUDE DINNER @ PARK CIRCLE
11/18/11 6:30 PM TO 9:00pm

NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION @ PARK CIRCLE
12/31/11 7:00 PM TO 2012

Times and dates may change

WE ARE NOT A GLUM LOT!



Area 62 SC General Service Assembly

Oct.1-2, 2011

Radisson Hotel
2100 Bush River Road
Columbia, SC 29210
(803) 731-0300

“...to place our common welfare first...”

‘Acting upon the persistent urge of old AA friends, and upon the conviction that general agreement and consent between our members, I shall venture to place in words these suggestions for an Alcoholics Anonymous Tradition of Relations -- Twelve Points to Assure Our Future.’ - Bill W. (Grapevine, April 1946).

In this issue we address Tradition One through Tradition Three, which cover the Principles of Unity, Spiritual Growth, and Tolerance. This to the end that the ‘hand of A.A.’ reach out to anyone who has a desire to stop drinking and keep the fellowship alive for the next man.

Tradition 4: Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.

Principle: Common Welfare

4. With respect to its own affairs, each AA 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 AA as a whole without conferring with the trustees of the Alcoholic Foundation [now the General Service Board]. On such issues our common welfare is paramount.

Tradition 5: Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Principle: Primary Purpose

Each Alcoholics Anonymous group ought to be a spiritual entity having but one primary purpose -- that of carrying its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.

Because it has now become plain enough that only a recovered alcoholic can do much for a sick alcoholic, a tremendous responsibility has descended upon us all, an obligation so great that it amounts to a sacred trust. For to our kind, those who suffer alcoholism,

recovery is a matter of life or death. So the society of Alcoholics Anonymous cannot, it dare not ever be diverted from its primary purpose.

Tradition 6: An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

6. Problems of money, property and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to AA should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An AA group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to AA such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. The management of these special facilities should be the sole responsibility of those people, whether AAs or not, who financially support them. For our clubs, we prefer AA managers. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside AA -- and medically supervised. An AA group may cooperate with anyone, but should bind itself to no one.

Tradition 7: Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

Principle: Independence

7. The AA groups themselves ought to be fully supported by the voluntary contributions of their own members. We think that each group should soon achieve this ideal; that any public solicitation of funds using the name of Alcoholics Anonymous is highly dangerous; that acceptance of large gifts from any source or of contributions carrying any obligation whatever is usually unwise. Then, too, we view with much concern those AA treasuries which continue, beyond prudent reserves, to accumulate funds for no stated AA purpose. Experience has often warned us that nothing can so surely destroy our spiritual heritage as futile disputes over property, money, and authority.

Tradition 8: Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.

8. Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional. We define professionalism as the occupation of counseling alcoholics for fee or hire. But we may employ alcoholics where they are going to perform those full-time services for which we might otherwise have to engage nonalcoholics. Such special services may be well recompensed. But personal Twelfth Step work is never to be paid for.

A Declaration of Unity

**This we owe to A.A.'s future:
To place our common welfare first;
To keep our Fellowship united.
For on A.A. unity depend our lives,
And the lives of those to come.**



SERVICE

Combined InterDistrict Committee Meetings

Public Information/Cooperation with Professional Community

(1st Thursday of odd months 7PM@TCIO)

Corrections Facilities

3rd Thursday @ 7:00 pm (even months only)

Grapevine Representatives

(as announced)

Treatment Facilities

4th Thursday @ 7:00 pm (odd months only)

Tri-County Intergroup Office Committee Meetings

Intergroup Reps meet at the N. Charleston Community Center at Park Circle

4800 Park Circle, N. Charleston, SC. The building is inside the circle.

HOTLINE: You can reach a recovering alcoholic any minute of any day

by calling (843) 723-9633

The Intergroup Office serves the groups in its area. We perform the needed functions common to all groups. We are supported by these groups and are here to aid you in your common primary purpose of carrying the message to the suffering alcoholic. The office is located at 3005 W. Montague Ave., Suite D, North Charleston, SC 29418. It is open 9-5 Monday through Friday and 9-1 Saturday. Phone numbers are Office- 843.554.2998 and Hotline- 843.723.9633. Visit our website at www.TCIO.org.

The views in this publication are strictly those of the editor and those submitting articles and not necessarily the views of the T.C.I.O., or A.A. as a whole.